THE EXAMINER.

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THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. POPE.

No. 756.

THE EDINBURGH REVIEW.

WE propose in this article to take a cursory notice of the contents of the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*, simply because we think that it more than usually well supports its character of being one of the two main *media* for conveying the opinions and objects of the ablest opposing thinkers of the day. We are aware that this is in some sort holding a candle to the sun; but no little experience of the reading world has convinced us, that a small portion of off-hand observation will assist to force into wider notice even a degree of merit that ought in no way to demand it. In the spirit of this conviction we make no further apology for the following spontaneous remarks on the last importation from the North.

Attending to the subjects in this number according to their ability and importance, we are called first to notice a very elaborate and able article upon Ireland, got up in the very best manner of this review. Disclaiming all party object, without sacrificing decided opinion, it is admirably timed at this moment, when no exertion of ingenuity, or partial pleading of self-interest, can either conceal the state of that unhappy country, or the causes which have led to it. As the reviewer very justly observes, this question may be argued very fairly; the misgovernment of Ireland not having been ministerial, but national; not the fault of one party, but of all; and therefore, without comparison, the greatest opprobrium of English history. We do not recollect any other country, except Turkey, which, retaining dominion over another for centuries, has exercised an ascendancy so lastingly and unfeelingly pernicious. If we regarded the operations of a superintending Providence with the eyes of many of our pious contemporaries, so impressed are we with this fact, we should be looking out for some very signal national infliction in the way of special interference. Our creed gives no sanction to this sort of expectation, but it looks for quite as much from the profound working of a general law—that Misgovernment has its *ne plus ultra*, and is at once restrained and punished by its own consequences. Ireland is in this state, and everything shews it: if it could *remain*, indeed, as hitherto, a routine of oppression, partiality, injustice, and military interference, on the one side; and of starvation, disorder, rapine, revenge, murder, and the hangman, on the other,—we are aware that the predominant order of nerve would, with great complacency, put up with such a cycle for ever. Happily, it is beginning to be evident to all men, that this exact order of cause and effect can last no longer, without detracting from the profit of the tyranny. Ascendancy has gone its length,—there *must* be change,—there can be no progression *without* it. Even the desperate game of another rebellion to *thin* the population, would not succeed. That game has been too recent for effective repetition, and would no longer answer the purpose of the proprietary, to say nothing of the humane policy of making it a species of physical necessity about every score of years to the end of time. Hence, however against the grain, something *must* be done; and the merit of this article in the *Edinburgh Review* consists in the forcible manner in which it designates the heads into which that something may be, or is comprised.

The first of these necessities, it properly and forcibly describes to be Catholic Emancipation. We are used to the thing, or the oppression and absurdity of making the religion of at least five-sixths of a population, a cause of civil disqualification, would be regarded as monstrous. In truth, it is at this moment unparalleled throughout the world. There are governments, indeed, intolerant of all but their own state religion, but that religion is at all events the religion of the majority. In shewing the utter impossibility of establishing concord in Ireland, until this eternal source of bitterness be removed, the reviewer is very clear and able; exhibiting in detail effects which almost every acute and impartial mind could deduce *à priori*. What, however, the more sagacious can foresee to be inevitable, it is well should be exhibited as fact to those who are less so; and with all *disinterested* people the reviewer must be most weighty. With the remainder it is useless to argue. What minority ever gave up the power of oppressing a majority, as long as they could retain it? Besides, this mode of governing Ireland has existed from the conquest; before a religious schism arose to supply a pretence for making the greater the *helots* of the lesser number, there was the distinction of within and without the *pale*; and the petitions of the poor Irish to be allowed to be equal and peaceable subjects, was opposed with precisely the same pertinacity as at present,—not quite so hatefully, to be sure, because the pretence not assuming a religious feature, there was less *hypocrisy*.

After Catholic Emancipation, the reviewer proceeds to the second Irish grievance—Church Revenue and Tithes. The Revenue of the Irish Church is certainly one of the most striking proofs of the rapacious nature of government by an *ascendancy*, that ever was afforded. Here is a church for the benefit (excluding both Catholics and Dissenters) of a *fourteenth* part of the population, more richly endowed, at this moment, than any other church in the Christian world; 185,000*l.* among 22 individuals, with a capability of improvement into three times as much—what an admirable illustration of primitive Christianity, and of the modesty of the doctrine that would argue thus out of *national* into *private* property! We cannot imagine any man so impudent as to assert, that all this riches is necessary to the good government of the Irish Church; but then it is its *property!* Were this monstrous appropriation only wasteful and nugatory, it might be borne, but alas! it is a positive evil, a poison furnished by the soil for the destruction of the natives of it. What minority ever gives up such emoluments as these—what minority will not keep a majority under hatches for ever to preserve them? The reviewer, as in the foregoing head, most clearly exhibits the result of this profligacy to be precisely what may be expected. The Irish prelacy, having little or nothing to do, spend as much as possible of their time in England, and die, like *primitive apostles*, worth 2 or 300,000*l.* a-piece.

If such Church Revenue be a crying shame, the Tithe System of that unhappy country is something worse. It might almost seem an invention of Satan himself for the production of the greatest possible degree of misery, oppression, raping, and disorder. The review is particularly serviceable in collecting the strong features of this most diabolical source of

oppression, with forcible succinctness. The partial iniquity of the allotment, by the withholding the tithe of *Agistment* or of pasture land, thrown almost exclusively upon the Catholic peasantry—the excessive litigation produced by collecting the support of one religion from the followers of another, with the additional pillage of the lawyer and the revenue, not for justice,—for *that*, nine times out of ten, is too dear for the purchase of the unhappy defendant,—but because he *cannot* defend himself;—all these facts are most forcibly pointed out in the summary and *multum in parvo* manner, which forms the beauty and utility of this sort of epitome. Fortunately, the last is one of the evils which are operating their own cure; the Landholder himself beginning to shrink from the consequences, and even a few of the Clergy. The major part of the latter are, however, for holding fast. At a visitation in the diocese of Armagh, last week, the Most Reverend Primate found out, with as much truth as novelty, that the object of those who were combining for a commutation of tithes, was not the relief of the peasantry, but the destruction of the *Protestant religion*, which of course, as an Evening Paper justly observes, depends upon Great Britain "raising taxes and supporting armies to enable an inefficient clergy to collect tithes from seven millions of people, in order to keep up a lukewarm belief in a fourteenth part of them." But all this is natural enough in a BERESFORD, who, doubtless, does not consider Scotland as a Protestant country at all. There is something remarkably illustrative in all this *noodledum*, considering the quarter whence it comes. There never was a rich priesthood yet, which did not regard its own emoluments as the palladium of the faith; and we wager, that upon this head the Mufti of Constantinople and the Primate of Ireland are both in a story. The reviewer condenses closely and powerfully upon this most interesting subject, and happily too, most seasonably.

The next source of Irish disorder, which is classed under the head of Government and Magistracy, ably exposes the nature of an executive composed throughout the whole course of social administration, of an *ascendancy* or factious minority. As we have before observed, the presumed Author of Evil himself could not have more effectually polluted the sources of political well-being. The miserable character of the Irish Magistracy is almost proverbial; and under a system which supplies an eternal premium for brutality and oppression, it can scarcely be otherwise. The reviewer recommends resident Lord-Lieutenants to each county, to alleviate this evil; but nothing will amend it while anything administrative remain an anti-catholic monopoly. The very anxiety to maintain it so must eternally produce injustice: it cannot be otherwise. Some explanation given under this head, in respect to the Sheriffalty, is peculiarly instructive. In fact, there is no justice in Ireland for poverty, and the miserable consequence is an opinion on the part of the oppressed, that all is fair in their own defence. Hence those scenes in Irish Courts of Justice, which are so truly disgraceful—the audacious falsehood and flagrant perjury. Hence all sorts of combination to counteract what is enacted as law, but felt as injustice; and the intolerable licence, disorder, and insurrection, which form the unavoidable consequence. Hence, in short, a dissolution of all that regard for the laws, which depends upon an involuntary consciousness that they are constructed for the equal protection of all men.

The next division of the reviewer is Education, upon which he collects some instructive information as to the deficiency of Irish Education, both Catholic and Protestant. This portion of the [illegible] very coolly and impartially handled. The perversion [illegible] of certain royal foundations into sinecures, [illegible] but we know something of that sort [illegible] of the usual Catholic school-master is exceedingly picturesque, as well as of the *classic* productions, by means of which his scholars are for the most part instructed.

Lastly, this very able summary adverts to the operation of the revenue laws upon the lower Irish population, including the unhappy subject of illicit distillation. Some useful observations will be found under this head, upon the necessity of giving artificial wants to the Irish peasant; or, in other words, a taste for something beyond the very cheapest means of existence, in order to exalt him into a provident and reflective animal. Some excellent observations upon certain untimely restrictive duties, passed at the Union, to prevent the introduction of the manufacture of the one country to the other, are also afforded, which, on the liberal and open principles of trade so ably supported by this publication, shew the extreme folly of such provisions on all sides.

Such is a brief account of an article, which ought to be universally read, as supplying an excellent abstract of the basis upon which Irish reform should rest. By all of professed political taste, the perusal of the *Edinburgh Review* is an affair of course; but there are many to whom subjects of this class are not usually attractive, who, when informed that is to be obtained in a small compass, will venture upon what they would not otherwise encounter: and even at the risk of being accused of a work of supererogation, we would omit nothing which by possibility might tend to make a clear notion of the usage of Ireland a part of general British acquirement.

We have already observed, that one of the performances in which the *Edinburgh Review* most excels, is forcible and well-digested epitome. This talent is particularly well exhibited in a review of the Memoirs of the Earl of WALDEGRAVE and of HORACE WALPOLE. We are not quite aware of the necessity; indeed, as we have before had occasion to remark, except as illustrating that which, in a certain sense, may be termed a branch of politico-natural history, we know of no study more profitless than that of the ministerial, corrupt, and oligarchical pettifogging of the animalculæ, which flourished as courtiers and ministers from the retirement of Sir R. WALPOLE to the ascension of the second PITT. During the whole of the period, Great Britain appears to us to have been a complete *Lilliput*. Passing events, however, so clearly shew, that a large portion of this aristocratical venality, greediness, and corruption, is not only inherent in the system, but must continue in it until the people are more adequately represented, such exposures as those of HORACE WALPOLE and Lord WALDEGRAVE are not without their use, although an objection may still hold good against the necessity of taking that sort of pains with them, which has been taken on the present article. Historically and politically, we think they are thrown away; in a literary point of view, it may be more defensible. Although HORACE WALPOLE may not steer entirely clear of the imputation of being only a lord among wits, his wit, satire, scandal, *persiflage*, and thorough knowledge of his own sphere, render him one of the highest class of personages to whom the sarcasm can be made applicable.

The next article in point of importance, is upon the *Napoleon in Exile* of Mr. O'MEARA, which supplies a temperate and able exposure of the unparalleled meanness and littleness of the treatment of the most intellectual man in Europe. We have given so much ourselves to this subject, we are not very disposed to resume it at second-hand; but we cannot help expressing satisfaction, that hitherto, with the exception of a writer whose ravings in regard to BONAPARTE has afforded afforded him a nickname for life,—no human being has attempted a defence of the execrable conduct towards him, so manfully detailed by Mr. O'MEARA; nor does even the hireling of the BOURBONS trust himself with detail,—it is *too* na-

tionally degrading. This book will be eminently serviceable to the character of NAPOLEON, if only by the excessive falsehood in respect to him which it will extinguish for ever. Although an expensive work, it seems that nearly 10,000 copies have been already sold. What has the *Quarterly* been doing, not to rush to the combat in the last number? Have its conductors been so weak as to imagine that this publication would not sell? They must now go to work, after all, uselessly as to the prevention of circulation, and with the certainty of even adding to it exactly in proportion as they revive an interest in the strange and eventful close of an existence so strikingly marked as that of NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

In one of those splenetically humourous moments, which tempt men occasionally to add celerity to the descent of a falling piece of baseness, we suppose one of the Northern Band took it into his head to pen a few pages upon the Bridge-street Combination,—that most despicable and would-be-oppressive cabal, whose recent conduct towards the miserable weaver it has contrived to get into its fangs, by going to Manchester for a victim, and Lancaster for a trial, must necessarily indispose every man of honourable mind from remaining in "the gang," if any of that description have for a long time belonged to it. The base game of oppressing through a *purse*, as exemplified in the recent removal of the case of RIDGWAY by *certiorari*, at the very moment of expected trial, and after he had incurred all the expence of preparing for it, accompanied, as it was, by the evident wonder and contempt of the presiding Judge, has placed this blessed Confederacy so completely in the mire, it is next to be-blackening a negro to bespatter them any further. The reviewer is aware of this; but after enumerating (and there is some utility so far) the outrageous ignorance, arrogance, and oppression, exhibited in their early measures, he thus significantly concludes: "We entertain little apprehension of seeing the attempt renewed; but it seemed good to record the facts and state the reasons which should deter honest men, and lovers of their country, whatever may be their political opinions; and put the unwary upon their guard against the artifices of those, who, through false alarms, would make them a prey." This is the Iliad in a nutshell. It is no good sign for the ship's crew that the purser grows rich; and societies may reasonably doubt the solid principles of an institution, which produces little or nothing except attornies' bills. The scribe whom men have agreed to call SLOP, says that much more *has been* performed; which he proves much like the sage mentioned by SWIFT, who seeing an ass drink in a pond by the light of the moon, on the partial obscuration of the luminary, exclaimed that the long-eared animal had swallowed it. As the nautical adage has it, "this may do for the marines, but the sailors will not believe a word of it." A certain order of subscribers may be credulous, but Mr. MURRAY knows better.

An article intitled the Politics of Switzerland, will form an important study to those who interest themselves with speculations on the future relations of France and Austria, and more especially in the ultimate fate of Italy. In this review, the nature of the British policy which so dishonourably gave Genoa to Sardinia, is described, which is, to keep open a door to assist Austria with English armies, to maintain Italy against France. Italy, if independent, the reviewer justly observes, would naturally ally herself with Switzerland, against the designs both of France and Austria; and such an alliance might render them jointly adequate to their mutual defence against both:—nearly the Grecian question upon another stage.

The remaining articles may be discussed briefly. There are two exquisitely pleasant ones on subjects of natural history; the one on Fossil Fishes, the other on Insects, elicited by KIRBY and SPENCE's *Entomology*. The former contrives to mix no mean portion of theoretical science in its pleasantry; whilst the latter is very vivacious and wittily amusing. We suspect that this vein is not altogether to the mind of the author reviewed; but who speculates upon the approbation of oysters? And really these leviathan reviewers first dangle writers and their productions on the end of a fork, and finally swallow them, with much the same indifference.

In pure science, we have an account of the first number of the *Transactions of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, who seem to be very learned and very dull:—and in the *belles lettres*, a review of *Nigel*, which is smart and good—but then a review of *Nigel* at this time of day!

We have only to mention a brief article on *Howison's Travels in Canada*, in order to remark, that it is more a real review of the work than usual; and that it adds some useful observations upon Canadian emigration. Upon the whole, we think this number a very serviceable one; tinged, of course, with a little party feeling, but much improved even in that respect. We suspect that mere party Whiggism is declining with the hope which, for a long time past, has been its sole and lean support. Q.

POOR LAWS.

We have recently had before us a Report from the Parliamentary Committee on the Poor Laws. The Committee appear to have contemplated as their almost exclusive duty, the suggestion of some "new provisions for keeping and passing the accounts of monies expended on the poor." There is no attempt made by the authors of the report to compare the principles on which the system was originally founded with those through the admixture of which, if it has not suffered a positive degeneracy, it has at least undergone a very sensible change. They do not hint at the political or social mischiefs arising from the *necessary* operation of the poor laws as they now exist; and of course are equally silent with regard to the causes and political remedies of those mischiefs. Some abuses which have crept into the *financial administration* of the poor laws constitute the whole subject of this report, which, nevertheless, within its limited sphere, is a valuable public document.

On the average of the years 1783, 1784, 1785, just after the close of the American war, the amount of money raised under the poor rates was in round numbers about 2,170,000*l.*: in 1812-13, the people of England paid four times that amount; and last year very nearly four times; yet the population of the island has certainly not doubled within the same period; and as there does not result from the tables published any evidence of a retrogression in the amount of poor rate assessments, from the year 1812 to 1821, except a transient one in the years 1814 and 1815, afterwards more than balanced by a rapid and enormous increase, it must be inferred that the progress of pauperism, since the peace of 1783, has outstripped that of our general population in the ratio of more than two to one. The Committee take credit for a sensible diminution in the poor rates of the year ending March, 1821, as compared with that of the year preceding; and calculate the reduction, at an average, throughout the kingdom, of about 5 per cent. We wish to go a little further into this part of the subject. In the year 1812-13, when wheat stood at 126*s.* per quarter, the gross sum levied under the poor rates was short of 8,700,000*l.* The sum raised during the year ended, March, 1821, was upwards of 8,400,000*l.*—a palpable reduction, according to the Committee: but in the latter year, wheat was only 62*s.* 5*d.*; sixpence, therefore, would buy more bread in 1821 than a shilling in 1813; and by that rule (setting aside an increase of one-tenth in the population for those seven years) the poor rates in March, 1821, ought not to have exceeded 4,300,000*l.* and allowing for the increase of inhabitants, the outside ought to have been 5,200,000*l.* Here, then, is a decided increase of pauperism in the year ending March, 1821, as compared with March, 1813, to the amount of more than three millions sterling. But let us try the inference which it has been the obvious wish of the Committee to establish, by some more recent data, concluding with those which they have themselves drawn from the returns of 1819-20. The year during which the poor rates stood highest was that ending March, 1818, when

reached the enormous amount of 9,300,000*l.*: now they are 8,400,000*l.* See what a reduction, say Ministers and their friends! But wheat in the former year sold for 90*s.* 7*d.* and in 1821 for 62*s.* 5*d.* To find, therefore, the just proportions between these periods, strike off nearly a third from the nine millions odd thousands, and the remainder would be much short of six millions and a half for that year which it forms the boast of the Committee has not exceeded 8,400,000*l.*: so the price of wheat in that same year 1819-20, over which the Committee have affirmed so striking an improvement on behalf of the last year ending March, 1821, was 69*s.*; in the last 62*s.*; which proportion ought to have reduced the poor rates not merely five per cent., as they are described by the Committee, but *nearly thirteen per cent.*, or nearly eleven hundred thousand pounds; whereas the nominal reduction was 300,000*l.*, and the real increase nearly 800,000*l.* So much for the allegation that the poor rates, down to March, 1821, had been diminished. Now with regard to the second head of inquiry—viz. the proportion between the sums actually given to the poor, and those which under the name of poor rates are otherwise, and often, we are afraid, improperly, disposed of—it appears that in the last year for which returns have been exhibited, the payments made "for other purposes than relief of the poor"—that is (although the Committee have forborne through delicacy to say so) for all purposes under which, embezzlement, malversation, or gross improvidence may be comprehended—amount to rather more for England generally than 16 per cent. on the gross assessments. In Wales the same description of charges average less than 14 per cent.; but in the different counties of England, a striking and marvellous disproportion is observable; as, for instance, in Cheshire those sums from which the poor derive *no* benefit, amount to 22½ per cent. upon the whole: in Lincoln, 23 per cent.; Rutland, 26; and Lancashire, 34! while in other counties, as Devon, they are less than 10, and in Sussex little more than 9 per cent. Now, when such a prodigious difference of pressure is inflicted on the public for the identical same account, it would be of extreme importance to scrutinize *how much* of the excess above the average, in those counties where excess to so great a degree is found, might be fairly ascribed to vicious or erroneous practices on the part of the overseers, or other public officers; the names of these charges may lead intelligent individuals to guess the facilities which they afford for mal-administration—"Expenses at law, and expenses of attending Justices—charge of removals—salaries of assistant overseers—expenses of erecting or repairing workhouses, or other buildings," and so forth.

The Committee desire, and we think with justice, that a more perfect system shall be followed of classing the poor-rate returns, both with respect to the grounds of relief and the persons receiving it, and to the collateral branches of expense. We must remark here, that there is one description of claimants for relief who ought never to obtain gratuitous aid in money—we mean those able-bodied men who ask support on the plea of involuntary idleness. Some of these will be burdensome to the parish, only so long as they can enjoy its charity without being forced to work: let them in every instance be given some laborious public employment, as the sole condition on which they obtain parochial relief; and the real will be discerned from the fictitious claimant, by an easy and infallible criterion. One word more, and we have done. In an appendix under the head of "Observations," it is urged by the parish officers of Chester, that *the landlords*, by still keeping up their rents, are the authors of the exorbitant poor-rates: "the farmer, at his present rent, cannot afford to employ the number of labourers which otherwise he might do on his farm." The high rent, therefore, acts as a double grievance, transferring an undue share of the produce of the soil to the landlord on one side, and to the overseer on the other. Great and extensive good may no doubt be done by a better *administration* of the parish funds. The principles of the system we have not touched upon; they form high and somewhat difficult ground; and if discussed at all, must be reserved for future opportunities.—*Times.*

STATIONERY OFFICE.

The Select Committee have made a Report respecting the abuses in the Stationery Office. They state, among other things, that *W. Ready*, Keeper of the Treasury Board Room, "has proved himself unworthy of the trust reposed in him, and that he is unfit to have the custody of any public store, however small." This man, it seems, had appropriated to his own use and profit a certain quantity of paper from the public store.—*Mr. Hartnell*, a printer, it appears, "has not scrupled, on pressing occasions, to apply the Government paper under his charge to his private business, holding himself bound to make good to the Stationery Office, at the end of his contract, the value of the paper so applied." This conduct is pronounced by the Committee to be "irregular and highly improper;"—and they recommend that in future all the sheets delivered by the printers to the Office should be counted by responsible persons appointed for that purpose.—Charges similar to those made against Mr. Hartnell were urged against Messrs. Thorowgood and Clowes, who have contracts with the Stationery Office for printing: upon which the Committee report, "that no part of the conduct of those persons seems liable to censure."

A charge had been made against Mr. Church, the present Cashier of the Office, affecting Mr. Courtenay, a Member of Parliament, to the effect that Mr. Church had bought his situation of Mr. Courtenay, his predecessor. The truth of this charge is directly negatived by a minute of the Committee, but Mr. Church was not asked through what interest he procured the situation.

The Committee state, that "the transactions detailed in the evidence have tended to convince them that the Stationery Office ought to be re-modelled, and placed under a more efficient superintendence.—It appears (they add) that three persons high in office—namely Sir M. Bloxam, Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Parson, have borrowed money from contractors under the department. Your Committee are persuaded that it cannot be necessary for them to point out that such a practice deserves the severest animadversion; and that when a public officer places himself under pecuniary obligation to a contractor, whom he ought to check and control, if he does not disqualify himself from an upright discharge of his public duty, he at least exposes himself to imputations from which the servants of the public ought at all times to be free.—The Committee submit that these transactions afford a strong ground in support of the recommendation above given.—Your Committee would therefore recommend to the Treasury to revise the establishment, and so place it upon a different and more efficient footing."

From the Evidence annexed to the Report, it appears that *Geo. Dickens, Esq.* who has been some years at the head of the Stationery Office, had borrowed money of Messrs. Brooke, Collier, and Barry, all tradesmen employed by the Office;—that *Sir Matthew Bloxam*, the Storekeeper, was at the same time a bill-broker; that he used to discount bills for various persons in the Office, had borrowed money from Alderman Magnay, and had applied for loans to others:—that *Mr. S. K. Parson*, the Assistant-Storekeeper, also borrowed money from Messrs. Faden, Hodgkinson, Middleton, and Black.

The *Traveller*, in noticing this Report, observes,

"We have, at no time, any very high opinion of the Report of a *Select* Committee, on any subject connected with public abuses. We know well how these Committees are appointed, and we know—and so does every one else at all acquainted with these matters—that the great concern is to find out plausible pretexts and apologies for such *detected* mismanagement as it is impossible to pass over, and after a few flourishes in favour of economy, to leave the whole system, in the main, the same as they found it. This Report is of the same class with all that have gone before it, or that are likely to come after it. Mr. Hume had discovered, from the best possible information, that the *Stationery* supplied to the Public Offices was applied to improper and fraudulent purposes. It appears also, by this Report, that "three persons high in office—namely, Sir Matthew Bloxam, Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Parson, have borrowed money from contractors under the department, and your Committee are persuaded that it cannot be necessary for them to point out that such a practice deserves the severest animadversion."—Truly, we think it does, and *something more*.—In these three persons the whole superintendence and management of the Stationery Office resides.—George Dickens, Esq. is the Comptroller, and Sir Matthew Bloxam is the Storekeeper, and Mr. Parson is his Deputy, or Assistant-Storekeeper; information is given that these official gentlemen are in the practice of borrowing money from the persons who, by virtue of a *contract*, have the ex-

clusive monopoly of supplying all the Public Departments of Government with Stationery. It is with these contractors that those persons, high in office, as they are styled, involve themselves in debt!—If a poor Excise officer, with a large family to maintain on a salary of 90*l.* a-year, borrows a single guinea of a trader *under his survey*, he is instantly discharged. Nothing can save him. But in the instance before us, if we look into the Red Book, we shall find the names of these Debtors just were they were!—We would pause here to ask, is not the very establishment itself of the Stationery Office an abuse? What earthly purpose of public utility does it answer? Why cannot each different Department of Government supply itself with Stationery? To this question what other answer can be given, than that this Stationery Office, like other useless offices of the same cast, serves to provide places for political hangers-on and dependents, who must be provided for—and to extend that system of influence, which is the curse of the country, and the main-spring of all its wretchedness, disunion, and discontent? Why, in the name of common sense, cannot the different Public Offices furnish themselves with paper, parchment, pens, ink, and sealing-wax, without a lucrative monopoly, upheld by an expensive official establishment of a Comptroller and his Clerks! a Cashier and his Clerks! a Storekeeper and Assistant-Storekeeper, with their Clerks! five Warehousemen! four Order Clerks! a Receiving Clerk! a Parchment Clerk! a Messenger! a Housekeeper! and a train of *appointed* Tradesmen and *select* Contractors! What say the members of this *Select* Committee to all this? Why, the substance of what they say is this—"We cannot avoid recommending that this establishment be *revised*, because the gross abuses that are practised under it have been forced upon the public observation. Mr. Hume and others have discovered and exposed them; but we shall give the establishment itself the sanction of our Report, and shall decidedly recommend that of all things it should be kept up; and we shall put it upon the old ground, that it is best for *the public interest!*" This is the substance; but in detail, the Report proceeds with becoming gravity, thus:—

"Your Committee would recommend to the Treasury to revise the establishment, and to place it upon a different and more efficient footing. It is only necessary upon this head further to add, that whatever arrangement it may be thought expedient to adopt, it is the decided opinion of your Committee, that the interest of the public will be best consulted by continuing the present system of supplying the various Public Offices by general contracts, rather than by reverting to the old system of allowing each office to provide its own Stationery; and it appearing that some of the Public Offices still continue to procure articles of Stationery from private tradesmen, your Committee strongly recommend that the whole supply of Stationery for the public service shall be made in one and the same manner, under whatever arrangement they may think fit to adopt."—No doubt the Treasury will *approve those very proper and patriotic* suggestions. The public, in the mean time, cannot but duly appreciate the labours of this Select Committee.

SPAIN AND AMERICA.

The following sound advice on the course which Spain should adopt towards her American Colonies, is extracted from the Manifesto addressed to the Spanish Nation and Cortes by the distinguished Deputy for the Province of Cordova, Jose Marino Guerra:—

"Let us tear off the veil which base and deceitful motives had thrown before our eyes, to prevent the affairs of America from being examined. That part of the world which once belonged to Spain, does, in fact, belong to it no more. This event, so important to all Europe, requires an absolute change in our policy, in our finances, and in all the branches of our administration; for, to reason from fact, a government which has lost three-fourths of its resources, must reform the three-fourths of its expenses, without which, the injury will rebound upon itself, and it will without remedy be ruined.

"It is indispensable that reason, impelled by necessity, should occupy the place of obstinacy, especially when there is no other remedy left. One only presents itself capable of stopping the evils which the fatal war of America have given rise to in Spain; that is—the recognition of the independence of those regions.

"We shall be able to derive more benefit from treaties than from war, which, with us, is purely nominal, though we experience heavy losses through it, without any of the compensations which any other kind of war affords. During that time our adversaries get skilled and inured to arms, and having already made every sacrifice which, in the beginning, renders that scourge so fatal to the human race, they are the better enabled to wage war, even at the expense of Spain, than ever they were; augmenting their naval forces by seizing upon ours, and with the help of these destroying even our coasting trade, by sending fleets to block up our ports.

"Those who wonder at this language (which is the same I made use of upon this subject some years back) will perhaps be able to inform me of the means which we have left to us to continue the war with America. Let the Spaniards of Lima tell us what assistance those of Madrid have sent them; or let those of Vera-Cruz, or those of Terra Firme, inform the Peninsular Spaniards who cry out for war, how many thousand men, or ships loaded with warlike stores, have they received from them. And, granting that they are in a state to send something for that object (which is far from true) will it be sufficient to send a ship to-day, and one or two years hence the elements of a regiment? This ridiculous way of making war is exactly what suits our adversaries: they have then the time to discipline their troops, to maintain themselves in a warlike attitude, and to stifle internal dissensions.

"I think that the late events in those countries have clearly demonstrated the falsehoods of those who wish to persuade government that we had a great party in America. It seems that those who reckoned so much upon the great dissensions of the inhabitants of Buenos Ayres, have been sadly mistaken in their conjectures, having never considered that all this bustle was about a few individuals, or some such other incident, and that no party whatever did once name the Spanish government.

"There never was a nation which in the course of a revolution has not had its factions; but great dangers unite them all for their general interest. France was torn by an intestine war; but France came out triumphant from the general league of Europe against it. Euribiades and Themistocles were rivals, but both fought together against the Persians for Grecian liberty. Those who wish for a continuance of this war, without giving also the means, must either acknowledge its inefficacy, or be declared the enemy of the nation, having no other wish than the prolongation of our evils, and the total ruin of our commerce.

"Let us not confound together national dignity, with the interest and folly of a few individuals, which can produce only evils without any advantage. Reasons of state and public utility demand measures different from those hitherto adopted. Other governments, as jealous of their glory and their interests, have yielded to the law of necessity. England, with a thousand times more resources than Spain, was forced to acknowledge the independence of her colonies: and she has not, on that account, descended from the high rank which she enjoys among other powers. Was Spain herself not forced to yield up her authority to Holland and Portugal, at a period when she was much more rich and powerful than at present, and though it was on the same continent?

"It will not then be a new thing for the Spaniards of the present age to do what their ancestors once did, and what other nations have also done, without ceasing, on that account, to exist politically as such."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

Letters from Strasburg describe the behaviour of Lieut.-Colonel Caron, lately found guilty by a council of war. Caron was dining when the gaoler received the notice of his sentence. Casting his eye upon it, he said "I am condemned—I expected that," and went on with his repast. The Reporter soon after arrived, and read the sentence of death. Caron heard it unmoved, and observed to the officer—"It is unjust! but I would rather be condemned by you than by my fellow-citizens."

Nantes, September 18.—We were on the point of having a revolt here last Thursday. A Swiss had menaced, and even taken aim at one of his officers—he was arrested, given up to the justice of the regiment, and condemned to death; but the soldiers declared that they would not execute the judgment, and that they would not suffer it to be executed by others. They went even so far as to threaten that they would spread themselves among the inhabitants, and join them against the authorities of the town. The preparations for the execution, and the fatal sledge destined to convey the dead body was brought to the place, where it remained all the night. However, the discontent of the regiment continued to increase, and they durst not venture to undertake anything. The Prefect, the Mayor, the General, and the Colonel, in alarm, met in council, and deliberated in secret till midnight. At length it was concluded that they might get out of the difficulty by naming a Council of Revision, which annulled the judgment, and condemned the guilty individual to a few years imprisonment in irons. This unusual procedure, and the triumph of the mutineers, have given rise to much uneasiness. Such are the fruits of the want of discipline, and the impunity to which the Government, carried away by blind passions, has accustomed the soldiers in all the excesses which they commit against the inhabitants. It will perish by the impious arms which it employs in destroying the constitutional regime and liberty. *Private Letter.*

PARIS, SEPT. 30.—The birth-day of his Highness the Duc de Bordeaux passed over with eclat. Early in the forenoon of yesterday the august Infant, in his uniform as Colonel of the *Garde Royale*, manœuvred that celebrated corps. How delightful for *les braves* of Austerlitz, of Jena, of Friedland, and of Leipsic, to find themselves commanded by a Prince full 24 months of age! How the grim features of the soldier of the old guard must have relaxed upon this memorable occasion!—*Private Letter.*

ROYAL ORDINANCE (DATED SEPT. 22.)

"Louis, &c.—Having under consideration the report of our Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice, charged with the portfolio of the Interior, from which it results that the sanatory measures established on the frontiers of the Pyrennees are henceforth without any object; wishing, nevertheless, to provide for the protection of the inhabitants of that frontier, our Council of State being heard, we have ordered and do order as follows:—Art. 1. The sanatory measures prescribed on the frontier of the Pyrennees, in virtue of our ordinance of the 27th of September, 1821, with respect to occurrences by land, shall cease from the date of the 1st of October next.—2. The troops employed on the sanatory cordon shall be maintained as a corps of observation."

SPAIN.

An Address from the King to the Spanish Nation, dated Sept. 16, denounces the base objects and hypocritical pretences of the Insurgents in the northern provinces, and calls on all classes to assist in suppressing the factious disturbers of the country. The seditious are warned, that, "in vain do they invoke the name of a King who hears them only with the most lively sentiments of indignation—in vain do they pretend to defend the prerogatives of him who is ambitious of no other title than that of being the Constitutional Monarch of the Spains."—The Address proceeds,—"Listen not to the voice of perfidious men, who misrepresent a law, which can only be accused of imperfections inseparable from all human labours. The constitution proclaims in the most solemn manner the worship of your fathers, and they would substitute for your piety the most abominable fanaticism. By the constitution you are free and happy; with them you would sink again into desolation and misery. Behold the blood which the fury of those banditti caused to flow; contemplate your dwellings, which were formerly asylums of peace, now become theatres of fratricidal war. Fix your eyes on that throne of derision and ignominy erected by imposture at Urgel. Finally, look at the precipice from which it is wished to hurl you. Enlightened Europe sees with horror so many excesses and so many crimes. Humanity demands vengeance for the insults to which she is exposed—the law for injuries suffered—the country for her outraged honour—and I—shall I continue silent?—shall I tranquilly behold the evils of the magnanimous nation of which I am the chief?—Shall I, in a disgraceful silence, suffer my name to be profaned by perjured wretches, who make it the buckler of their crimes? No, Spaniards! my voice denounces them at the severe tribunal of the law. I devote them to your indignation and to the execration of the universe.—Ministers of Religion! you who announce the word of the living God, and preach his morality and his charity, tear off the mask with which the perjured cover themselves. Declare that the faith of Christ is not to be defended by crimes, and that it rejects from the number of its ministers those who employ fratricidal arms.—And you, public writers, you who direct PUBLIC OPINION, *the Queen of Nations*—you who frequently compensate for the insufficiency of law and the errors of governments, employ your arms in the national cause with more ardour than ever; unmask the enemies of freedom; infuse the love of liberty into the hearts of all Spaniards."

The proceedings of the Provisional Government at Urgel, the Congress of Verona, and the preparations making in the French fortresses on the Pyrennees, excite great attention; the fears of a foreign invasion increase so much, that in political meetings we already hear people speak of plans of defence, of alliance with Portugal, and even with England, to which all kinds of concessions would be made. It seems, in fact, more than probable, that the Treaty with Portugal will soon be concluded; and, on the other hand, very great hopes are built on the aid of Great Britain in case of foreign invasion.—*Madrid Paper.*

PORTUGAL AND BRAZIL.

Very animated debates have lately taken place in the Cortes at Lisbon, on the question of Brazilian independence. A Committee, to whom the consideration of the conduct of the Prince Royal had been referred, have recommended that the convocation of a Brazilian Cortes at Rio by his Royal Highness should be declared null and void; and this recommendation has been the subject of many warm declarations both for and against it. One Deputy, Senor AGUIAR, had the manliness to denounce all interference with Brazil as unjust and scandalous. He declared, that Brazil has as much right as Portugal to change the form of its government; and he asked, what would the Cortes have said, if Brazil had opposed the Revolution of Portugal, and sent troops across the Atlantic, to subject her again to despotic power?

In the mean time, hostilities are likely to take place between the Portuguese and Brazilian forces. Although nearly all Brazil has manifested its wish to have a separate Legislature of its own, if not to be wholly independent on Portugal, a portion of the European inhabitants of Bahia, and the whole of the European forces, commanded by General Madeira, refuse obedience to the Prince Royal, and remain at open war with the rest of the people and the native regiments. Madeira possesses the forts and harbour; and in order to dislodge him, an expedition lately sailed from Rio, to act with the native troops. On the other hand, a squadron with troops left the Tagus early in June, to succour the General, and the latter fitted out six vessels to aid the Portuguese squadron in making good an entry into the port, should the Brazilian fleet attack it. Neither expedition had however been heard of at Bahia on the 26th of July.

ITALY.

The *Neapolitan Gazette* contains an account of the treatment of the partisans of the Constitution. Thirty persons, concerned in the Revolution of 1820, have been condemned to death, and thirteen to 25 years' imprisonment. The sentence of twenty-four out of the thirty condemned, was, however, commuted into imprisonment and hard labour for 30 years. Two were executed on the 11th September, Signors Morelli and Silvati (the remaining four, including General Pepe, having escaped abroad.) They passed the previous night in a *capella* or little church, surrounded by priests. "The horrors of the place," says a letter from Naples, "and the near approach of death, made an impression on Silvati, who confessed himself, and received the Sacrament. Morelli, however, expressed his disbelief of the doctrines of the Church and his contempt of its Ministers. At the place of execution, as they were sentenced to suffer with the *ultima ignominia*, like parricides, their eyes were bound, their faces covered with black crape veils, a robe of coarse black stuff was thrown over their bodies, and their shoes and stockings were taken off. They walked firmly to the guillotine; a priest, with a large crucifix in his hand, walked by the side of each; when they ascended the scaffold, Silvati knelt down, and acknowledged the justice of his sentence; but Morelli remained standing, firmly refusing to listen to the priest, saying, 'he wants to deceive me;' and when the confessor renewed his exhortations, with the words, 'God is just,' Morelli answered, 'God has not been just to me in this business; I have always been an honest man, and now I am to die like a villain.' Both met their fate very resolutely and calmly. The body of Morelli was, in consequence of his impertinence, refused Christian burial."

TURKEY IN ASIA.

DREADFUL EARTHQUAKE IN SYRIA.

CONSTANTINOPLE, SEPT. 3.—Aleppo, one of the most beautiful cities of the Ottomon Empire, has been visited by an earthquake, resembling those which laid waste Lisbon and Calabria in the last century. The first and most severe shock occurred on the 13th of August, about ten in the evening, and instantly buried thousands of the inhabitants under the ruins of their elegant mansions of stone, some of which deserve the name of palaces. Several other shocks succeeded, and even on the 16th shocks were still experienced, some of which were severe. Two thirds of the 40,000 houses of this populous city (containing 200,000 inhabitants) are in ruins, and along with them an immense quantity of valuable goods of all kinds from Persia and India have been destroyed. Tartars from Damascus report, that they saw the whole population of Aleppo encamped in the environs. They state that several other towns, particularly Antioch and Laodicea, have been destroyed by this earthquake. The captain of a French ship has also reported, that two rocks at the time of the earthquake had arisen from the sea in the neighbourhood of Cyprus, which is almost under the same latitude as Aleppo. The great number of unburied bodies in this extremely hot period of the year, has produced pestilential effluvia, and obliged the unfortunate inhabitants to seek for refuge in some remote district.

GREECE.

By the way of Trieste letters were on Thursday received from the Morea, dated the 23d of August.—They completely confirm the successes of the Greeks, who have re-possessed themselves of Corinth, as well as of Napoli di Romania.

IRELAND.

ARMAGH, SEPT. 23.—At the visitation held this day in the Cathedral, by his Grace the Lord Primate (Lord John Beresford) in speaking of tithes his Grace said, the education which clergymen received, the rank which custom had assigned them in society, and the many unnecessary expenses they were thereby forced into, all demanded that the reward should be ample. Nor could this be considered detrimental to the public, when the whole was expended in the neighbourhood from whence it was derived. The list of absentees would be found to contain few clergymen in its numbers. The rights of the clergy to tithes was enjoined by the Scripture of God, and confirmed by the laws of man. The tithe of the parish was as much *the property of the incumbent* as the estate was of the landholder—nay, *even more so*. By the various revolutions of war, and the forfeitures consequent on rebellion, the soil had often changed masters; but in every mutation, the property of the church had been held inviolable. His Grace then entered into a train of acute reasoning and logical inference to prove the inefficacy and even mischievous tendency of commutation. His Grace summed up all, by declaring his decided conviction, that the object of all such innovations is, and the end would be, the utter subversion of the ecclesiastical establishment.—*Drogheda Journal.*

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTES.

Tuesday, October 1.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

T. Norris, Bishopstone, Wiltshire, shoemaker, from Oct. 12 to Oct. 19.

T. Fletcher, Queenhithe, coal-merchant, from Oct. 5 to Nov. 23.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Martin, Ockham, Surrey, wheelwright. Solicitor, Mr. Walter, Mitre-chambers, Fenchurch-street.

J. T. Middleton, Stone, Staffordshire, coach-proprietor. Solicitor, Mr. Barber, Fetter-lane.

W. Butcher, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, mercer. Solicitors, Messrs. Hall and Brownley, New Boswell-court.

S. G. Hart, Harwich, merchant. Solicitors, Messrs. Saunders, Heawood, and Matthews, Upper Thames-street.

W. Lane, Alderton, Glocestershire, cow-dealer. Solicitor, Mr. Bousfield, Chatham-place.

Saturday, October 5.

BANKRUPTS.

C. Allwood, Walcot, Somerset, confectioner. Solicitor, Mr. Stephen, Broad-street-buildings.

E. Tye, Sibton, Suffolk, farmer. Solicitor, Mr. Woodhouse, King's-bench-walk.

S. and T. P. Franceys, Liverpool, marble-masons. Solicitors, Messrs. Adlington and Co. Bedford-row.

R. S. Oldfield, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant. Solicitor, Mr. Shaw, Ely-place.

W. Pulfrey, Hinchwick, Gloucester, farmer. Solicitor, Mr. Pritchard, Earl-street, Blackfriars.

G. Bradford and A. Paradice, Bristol, brokers. Solicitors, Messrs. Williams and White, Lincoln's-inn.

T. Jacks, Bishopsgate-without, flour-factor. Solicitor, Mr. Lee, Three-crowns-court, Southwark.

T. Herbert, jun. Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, auctioneer. Solicitor, Mr. Hewitt, Tokenhouse-yard, Lothbury.

Mr THOMAS BACON's Letter in our next.

THE FUNDS.—We have to report little or no fluctuation in the Home Market this week, which indeed is becoming a very subordinate scene of business, the spirit of adventure being almost entirely confined to Foreign Securities. In consequence of this prevalent *rage*, the Stock Exchange Committee have at length allowed the foreign business to be transacted in the House; so that there will be a double market. All the Foreign Funds are rising, but more especially the Spanish, the old Stock of which has attained to such a price, that persons who have held it from the beginning, might by sale at this moment realise nearly 21 per cent. A strange discrepancy has existed between the Old and New Spanish Securities, owing, it is said, to the former being more marketable on the Continent; but this difference is disappearing, the latter having risen nearly FOUR per cent. yesterday, in consequence of a report that it had been taken up by Mr. Rothschild, a fact which it is thought implies no approaching molestation of Spain from the proceedings at Congress. This, and the fact of the *New Times* having been at work for a week to prove them insecure, may possibly account for the rise. Latest Quotation, Home Market:—

Three per Cent. Red .. shut	New Four per Cents. 101⅛
Four per Cents..... shut	Consols for Account . 81¾

Consols . . . . . 81⅝.

Ditto Foreign Securities:—

French 5 per Cents, 92f. 50c. Ex. 25f. 50c.	Prussian, 89.
Russian 6 per Cents. 82.	Prussian Scrip. 1822, 84½.
Ditto Metallic, 82.	Danish, in £ sterling, 89½.
Russian of 1822, 89⅛.	Ditto, in Marcs Banco, 86½.
Ditto Scrip, 89⅛.	Colombian 6 per Cent. 90½.
Neapolitan 5 per Cents. 77⅝.	Chilian 6 per Cents. 84⅛.
Austrian 5 per Cents. 82.	American 6 per Cents. 92 to 98½.
Spanish of 1820, 79.	Ditto 5 per Cents. 96½.
Ditto of 1821, 70¼.	Ditto 3 per Cents. 69½.
	Ditto Bank Shares, 22*l.*

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, OCT. 6.

THE only interest felt by the European public in regard to the proceedings of the Royal Conspirators, about to assemble at Verona, is connected with Spain. Will that country be treated as Piedmont and Naples were? is the universal question; and independently of the reason of the case, the alarm betrayed by the moderate Royalists at Paris and the Prussian official journal, *lest the monied interest should think so*, is a pretty decisive assurance in the negative. To be sure, the bare suspicion that the Holy Allies should deliberate on a project so atrocious, is a sufficing indication of the sense entertained on all sides of the character of that despotic combination. We all remember how the tools of these same Sovereigns stunned us with outcries against NAPOLEON'S invasion of Spain, as one of the most flagrant outrages upon national rights ever heard of. Yet NAPOLEON'S invasion was undoubtedly undertaken with the eager concurrence of the French nation; CHARLES the Fourth and FERDINAND the Seventh had resigned the Crown in his favour, an act "good" in Legitimacy, though not in justice; and lastly, the French dominion, with all its faults, would at least have been a great improvement upon the corrupt and bigotted sway of the Spanish BOURBONS. How extremely *sincere* then all the furious declamation about national rights must have been on the part of the same Legitimates, who sent 100,000 Austrian bayonets into Italy, to put down the liberties of the Italians, and would willingly send 300,000 into Spain for the like purpose (if 30 millions of lively Frenchmen did not fortunately interpose), with no earthly pretence than their own insolent displeasure at Spanish liberty and happiness! But the noble Spanish people may laugh in security at the impotent malice of the frightened Despots. The Liberals of Europe would in reality rejoice to see an attempt so mad as a crusade against the freedom of Spain, which could only end in a general convulsion throughout Europe. The Allies are not indeed wise; but they have an instinct of fear, and they feel the ground quaking under them at Verona, at Naples, at Paris, at Berlin, and even at Vienna. Nevertheless, we do not suppose that the new Congress will separate without some fresh betrayal of temper and inclination. Their great enemy, the Press, cannot indeed be easily fettered more than it now is on the Continent; and as we see by an account from Naples, executions and imprisonments *for thirty years* are doing all that terror can do to deter the Italians from attempts to regain their liberty. What we expect, however, (and the *Courier* sanctions the hope) is a lofty declaration of their high displeasure at the Revolutions of Spain and

Portugal. Policy would dictate to the perplexed tyrants, to preserve a perfect silence about those provoking countries; but spleen cannot always be choked; and some "paper bullets" from their Imperial and Royal Majesties on this Spanish question would afford infinite fun.

The French King, feeling the lying pretence of the "Sanatory Cordon" no longer tenable, has issued an Ordinance, which acknowledges the military force at the Pyrenees in its real character of a "Corps of Observation." The pretext for its maintenance is, "the protection of the inhabitants of the frontier." When will King's Speeches and Decrees cease to be made up of daring falsehoods? Every body knows, that 40,000 men are no more wanted for the protection of the French frontier than for the British sea-coast; and every body also knows, that the object of this army is to afford shelter and supplies to the bands of robbers and priests who are harassing the northern provinces of Spain. But Spain may be, in no long time, both able and willing to resent this open insult; and the BOURBONS may bitterly repent having given cause for a retaliation that would inevitably seal the fate of their dynasty.

Among other signs of the vigour of the New Spanish Ministry, not the least is an eloquent Address to the Nation, which they caused FERDINAND to sign, denouncing the base and hypocritical motives of the faction who have involved a portion of the country in the horrors of civil war, under the much-abused names of religion and loyalty. Oh! cry the hirelings, this goes for nothing, because it is forced upon the poor king by his rebel ministers. So much the worse, indeed, for the poor creature of a king, when a piece of truth and honesty cannot be put into his mouth, but his partisans immediately proclaim that he is base and cowardly enough to sign it against his conscience! Whether FERDINAND be an incurable traitor or not, however, the forcible language of this Address is no less *true* on that account, and the firm policy of the Ministers no less laudable, in making him utter sentiments which must render the insurgents hopeless of any support from the throne, beyond the *suspected* wishes of the monarch.

The mercantile letters from the Morea and the Ionian Isles, all confirm the intelligence of the Greek successes; while the *Austrian Observer* persists in its former story, that the Turks have overrun the Peloponnesus, and that the Greek cause is at an end. The contradiction being so direct, can only be satisfactorily explained by the arrival of such authentic accounts as must come, sooner or later, of the important events that have certainly taken place. There are two things, however, to be observed in regard to the present state of the accounts; first, that the *Austrian Observer* is an old offender in the way of false news adverse to liberty; and secondly, that it contents itself with asserting vaguely the general triumph of the Turks, without detailing dates or circumstances, while the narrative on the other side is both minute and consistent. There is no confirmation of the supposed naval battle, though one was expected to take place in the Gulf of Lepanto.

Sir Wm. A'Court is gone to Madrid, as our Minister Plenipotentiary. Sir William's mission at the present moment deserves attention. We have been desired, indeed, to view in it some indication of a sound and respectable system of foreign policy worthy of the power and former character of this country, and a preparatory step to the total separation of our Cabinet from the duplicity and treachery of the Holy Alliance. Without yielding implicit faith to these anticipations, we believe that Ministers are quite sick of the Continental Legitimates, and are besides in the daily receipt of so much odium for their domestic Administration, that they would willingly embrace a plausible pretence for shaking off all that now attaches to them from their foul connection with a set of mean and unprincipled Despots abroad. To some feeling of this sort we would fain ascribe the appointment of an Ambassador from this country to the Court of Madrid, at the very time that the Holy Alliance are entering into a Conclave, avowedly to discuss the question of foreign interference with the internal affairs of Spain. We recollect, distinctly, that during the last Session, the Marquess of Londonderry informed the House of Commons, that the degree of relative friendship between Independent States was always expressed by the rank of the Representatives at their respective Courts. Upon this principle we must at present be on terms of perfect amity with the Constitutional Government of Spain, and what is more remarkable, we indicate this by sending there a Minister Plenipotentiary at the precise period that the French Cabinet have in dudgeon withdrawn their's from Madrid—that a French army menaces the invasion of Spain, and the Holy Alliance is plotting its subjugation! We are confidently assured, indeed, that the news of this step absolutely astounded the French Ministry, and was the cause of a serious fall in the French funds, which at the time was referred to other circumstances.—*Morning Chronicle.*

THE LATE EXECUTIONS IN PARIS.—What added much to the popular indignation on this occasion was, that during the trial the forms and principles of law and justice had been so monstrously violated,—there was so totally an absence of all proof of overt act—the fury of the Procureur du Roi Marchangy had been so outrageously indecent, especially when exasperated by the powerful arguments of the Counsel of the accused, he exclaimed with the passion and exultation of a cannibal savage, "no eloquence can snatch the head of Bories from public vengeance," that not even the trial at Poitiers presented a more disgusting example of illegal ferocity. The people expected to the last that the King would pardon the young men; and it was not until the appearance of the *Greffier* (or Reporter) at the place of execution, that the multitude felt the melancholy certainty, that so barefaced a political murder would take place.

Every newspaper that has reached this country within the last fortnight from the South of Ireland states that conspiracy, revenge, burglary, and murder, have all in their turn re-appeared. At Abbeyfeale the troops have thus early in the season been employed to scour the country for offenders, and have captured two of the Kerry incendaries of October, 1821. The legal expedient of levying distress for rent has been *undermined*, rather than openly resisted, in the county of Limerick, by the practice of carrying off, or destroying at night, the cattle seized on behalf of the landlord during the day-time. In the very suburbs of Cork, a clergyman's house was attacked on Sunday morning the 29th ult., at one o'clock, and a faithful servant barbarously murdered. The assassins escaped.

Among the names of Subscribers, residing abroad, to the suffering Irish, how comes it that Lord BYRON's is the only one that seems to have been omitted? *We know* that his Lordship sent 1142 francs (about 48*l.* sterling) to the Committee at Paris.

A Sufferer in the Cause of Reform.—The *Black Dwarf* contains the following:—"Mr. W. G. Lewis is at present a prisoner in Oakbam gaol, under a sentence of two years' imprisonment, and a fine of 50*l.* for the publication of a "sad seditious libel," in the phraseology of boroughmonger justice as by law established; but for what we should have denominated a friendly caution to a certain great man, not to trust too much to the advice of the interested slaves about him. The term of Mr. Lewis's imprisonment expires in November next; but he has no means of paying the fine of 50*l.*; and there is, besides, a detainer lodged against him, at the suit of the excise, for the sale of breakfast-powder, which has since been legalized by the legislature. Here, then, is a sum of 150*l.* to be paid, before Mr. Lewis can hope to regain his liberty. The fines *ought* to be remitted, because he has no personal means of paying them. His means of livelihood have been destroyed by two years' imprisonment, and three Crown prosecutions; but his persecutors will care nothing for this. They will have their bond (their money), or its full equivalent in *anguish*. He musl pay them in the horror of seeing his wife and children pine through a dismal winter, the *third* of his existence in a wretched dungeon, almost intolerable in the winter months, with the privations that a prisoner must endure. Surely, the reformers will not see entailed upon this persecuted individual, the horrors of a *third winter*; for the want of a sum of 150*l.*"

It is reported, that in order to impress more fully on his colleagues the necessity for the accession of Mr. Canning, Lord Liverpool, in the late discussions, laid before them the plan of the new financial arrangements, which he has it in contemplation to propose in the ensuing Session. One important part of these arrangements we understand is, the substitution of a Tax on Property for Assexed Taxes, which are to be repealed to the amount of some millions a year. In this way it is hoped that the Country Gentlemen may be quieted, without any sacrifice on the part of the Exchequer (the amount of Property Tax equalling that of Assexed Taxes repealed) and that consequently the civil and Military Establishments of the country may be preserved from further reduction. Besides the expectation that monied men will be made to pay much more by a Property Tax than they do at present, while the country gentlemen will pay less, Ministers may also have in view the reaching those who now consume their revenues abroad, and the tempting those to return whom the Assessed Taxes have drfven away. Of course every shift will be tried before entering seriously on reduction. Whether or not the country gentlemen will be satisfied without any reduction is a question which will of course be variously answered, according to the notions entertained of them. —*Morning Chronicle.*

The English Opera House closed for the season last night. In the Farewell Address, the Managers express publicly their grateful sense of the Lord Chamberlain's new regulation, by which they have enjoyed, "for the first time since the Theatre was erected, a fair though still limited chance" of success. The season has been successful, and what is more, has well deserved it.

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

Sir Thomas Lawrence has lately painted a picture of his Majesty, which will doubtless immortalise both the artist and his subject. The work was undertaken, we believe, shortly after the Easter recess, and the development in the House of Commons of the second or auxiliary project for the pacification of the Country Gentlemen. The Royal visits to Buckingham-House at that time became frequent, and from the significant brevity with which they were noticed in the Court news, they were thought to be somewhat mysterious. The whole matter, however, is now satisfactorily explained, by the fact of the completion in the mean time of a portrait of our gracious Sovereign, which is intended to transmit a happy representation of his Majesty to posterity, in his favourite character of a private and perfect Gentleman! The trouble and anxiety which this painting has cost are said to be incalculable. On the mornings that the King went to Buckingham-House, we understand, he rose extraordinarily early, and spent a much longer period than usual at his toilette—circumstances which, together with the ignorance of the Royal Household as to his Majesty's real purpose in crossing the Park, are reported to have caused much surmise and curiosity in Carlton Palace. An apartment was fitted up at Buckingham-House, under the immediate inspection of Sir Thomas Lawrence, for his Majesty's especial reception, and the admission of the light which was to fall upon the Royal figure, regulated by the nicest rules of art, and the most refined suggestions of cultivated taste, in order to produce a happy effect. In all these preliminaries, the President of the Academy is said to have had the advantage of several critical hints from the King himself; and he was also careful, we understand, to make early meteorological observations on the mornings appointed for a sitting, that he might advise his Majesty respecting the favourable or unfavourable state of the weather. The picture itself is of extraordinary dimensions, and in every respect a splendid effort of art. His Majesty is represented reclining on the curvilinear arm of a sofa, in an easy and graceful attitude, and in the plain elegant attire of a fashionable drawing-room. The very sofa, we understand, is an exquisite creation of the pencil; and, what is not usual with this excellent artist, the minutest and least important parts of the whole picture are finished in an elaborate style. The King's foot is alleged to have cost Sir Thomas a world of pains, and also his Majesty's *hair*, while the utmost care has been taken to do perfect justice in every part to the Royal Tailor. Upon the whole, those who have enjoyed a sight of the picture, pronounce it one of the best specimens of the Fine Arts which the country has produced, as well as a *beau ideal* representation of a full dress gentleman.—*Morning Chronicle.*

Thursday afternoon his Majesty left Carlton Palace in his travelling-carriage and four horses. He was preceded by two outriders, and followed by one servant on horseback and two in the dickey. The King was dressed in a dark-coloured coat, buttoned up close, according to the customary mode of the Royal Family, and had on a black handkerchief. His Majesty looked uncommonly well, and appeared to be in excellent spirits. He very graciously bowed when recognized at various points of his journey by portions of his people. Both the carriage windows were down. The King was accompanied by two gentlemen, one of them, a young gentleman wearing mustachios. The King passed through Brentford, and proceeded to the Royal Cottage, at Windsor, where his Majesty purposes to make a short stay.—*Courier.*

THE LIBERAL.

Our readers will see by an advertisement in our present Number, that a day is at length fixed for the publication of the new Periodical Work from Italy, and the title announced —"The Liberal,"—a title which conveys in the most comprehensive manner the *spirit* in which the work is written, and falls in happily with the general progress of opinion (we do not mean in a political so much as in a general sense) throughout Europe.

Next Sunday, we shall give a copious account of this interesting publication, with considerable extracts.

EASTER DUES.

(From a Correspondent.)

I take the the liberty of requesting you to insert in your next *Examiner*, what is the legal demand for these dues. I have been told that it is only 4*d.* for each communicant, or rather each Protestant, whether he go to church or not. I was on cheerful terms with the person of

a housekeeper in it; but on offering the collectors the legal sum, they indignantly refused it, saying they were never asked such a question by a gentleman before. I retorted by saying, that parsons never shewed us any mercy in a *tithe cause!* In a sanctified circle, soon afterwards, an observation was made, intended no doubt to come round, that they were afraid I had not such a sense of religion as I ought to have.

It is a great pity but that all the church property was sold, and the priests paid, like officers in the army and navy. As they are merely a part of the machine of Government, let them be treated as such;—they should have nothing to do with tithes, glebe land, proving of wills, or marrying or burying. The greediness and selfishness of the priest are proverbial: a story was told me in company lately of a genteel Rector of a parish in or near London, who was constantly circulating a hint, that he expected nothing less than *gold* for Easter dues.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

Covent-Garden.

On Tuesday the 1st inst. according to the new arrangement, this theatre opened for the season. The alterations, to add to the comfort and convenience of the public, have already been detailed. That inconvenient appendage, the basket, has been removed from the dress circle, to which it was a great disgrace and infliction, a part of the space having been added to the depth of those boxes, to which a distinct lobby is also formed, so constructed as to be capable of being heated by a stove. By this means, the cold currents of air and the gabble of the loungers are very pleasantly excluded; all which is well, as is also the polishing and touching up of the general exterior of the whole house.

The season commenced, *selon les regles*, by a play of Shakspeare's,—the ever fascinating comedy of *Twelfth Night*, previous to the opening of which, *selon* as before, the performers came forward in a body to sing "God save the King," which they managed in a very good style. The comedy was cast the same as last season, except that poor Emery was succeeded by Bartley as *Sir Toby*. It is impossible, probably, to hit upon two performers of comedy, whose general marking differs more widely than that of the two actors in question; and yet they have both succeeded. The *Sir Toby* of Bartley is a more frolicksome and joyous reading than that of Emery; but so deeply does Shakspeare always ground himself in genuine nature, that most of his characters will admit two or three versions, with no great abatement of especial propriety. Mr. Bartley was well received, and much applauded. The *Malvolio* of Farren was also good, but somewhat too uniformly exalted; that is to say, he assumed so much arrogant self-conceit in the first instance, he left himself no room to grow more silly after reading the letter,—which reading, by the way, he managed with exquisite humour. Blanchard's *Sir Andrew Aguecheek* is well known: it overthrew the criticism of Dr. Johnson point-blank, by proving that fatuity can be made comical. Having most ungallantly attended to the males first, we now proceed to observe that the *Viola* of Miss Tree was precisely the love-lorn, pensive, yet quick-witted and passion-breathing girl-boy, which she has always made it; and that she breathed forth those low notes of hers which so touch the soul, as enchantingly mellifluous as ever. The gentle touch of comedy too, in the battle with *Sir Andrew*, was excellent. The part of *Olivia* was given to Miss Love, whose musical execution is much improved, and as to the rest, to say the truth, none of the ladies who have recently performed it, in recitation and appearance make out the mixture of dignity and passion which belongs to this Sappho of Quality. The pageant of *Juno and Ceres* was got up very splendidly, and the whole went off very pleasantly. Of the *Miller and his Men*, which followed, we need not say anything.

On Wednesday, a Mr. Evans, from Bath, came out as *Farmer Ashfield* in *Speed the Plough*. The character is one of the many common-place exhibitions of native feeling and integrity in a rustic dress, and affords little test for talent. Mr. Evans however acted up to the part, evincing a correct conception throughout, and in one or two scenes rising into energy with the occasion. The allusion, in his interview with *Sir Philip Blandford*, to the distress of the farmer, and what humanity required from the landlord, was warmly responded to by a well-filled and respectable Pit—which, by the way, generally includes both the head and the heart of the audience.

Thursday was fixed for the appearance of Miss Lacy, who has attracted notice on the Dublin stage, in *Belvidera*. Owing however to the death of Mrs. Twiss, his sister, Mr. C. Kemble could not appear in *Jaffier*, and in consequence the *debut* of the fair Hibernian was postponed. We attended notwithstanding, and witnessed the really exquisite *Lord Ogleby* of Farren, in the *Clandestine Marriage*,—as highly finished a cabinet portrait as ever we beheld. The extreme difference of manner and costume in the evergreens of the present day renders the good-natured patrician coxcomb of the old school a kind of resurrection of the dead. Such of us as are rising fifty, think we can remember something of the sort, and the younger persons collect it from the Tatler, Spectator, *et hoc genus omne*, not forgetting the long-winded novels of Richardson. This comedy was altogether tolerably well performed; and Miss Foote, as *Fanny*, formed as fair an apology for the inconsistency of *Sir John Melville*, and the bold resolution of the battered peer, as can well be imagined. A *Divertisement* followed, introducing a new *corps de ballet*. It seemed a hasty and undigested getting up, so we will say nothing about the dancers, until the production of a something more formal and finished.

Drury-Lane opens on Saturday next. The note of preparation is profound, almost, indeed, awful. If the house be so effectually contracted as materially to assist sight and hearing, we wager success against the world. The mere novelty of such a luxury in a winter theatre will do the business. Of late, the rate at which *sound* travels might have been accurately admeasured by a brace of stop-watches; the one placed by the performer, and the other at the extremity of the dressed boxes: *probatum est*. Q.

NEWSPAPER CHAT.

French Trial by Jury.—Of all the instruments of deception and oppression, a perversion of the trial by Jury is the worst; and of all the perversions of this mode of trial, the perversion in France is the most complete. In forming the thing called a Jury in France, the Prefect, an officer appointed by and removeable at the pleasure of the Ministry, selects, at his own discretion, the names of 72 persons. From the list so formed, the President of the Royal Court, with the Procureur-General, or public prosecutor, strikes out 36. The accused then strikes out nine; the Procureur-General nine more, and of the remaining 18, the first 12 drawn from a vase are the Jury: two *suppléants*, or substitutes in case of need, are added from the remainder. The proceeding therefore may be thus summed up:—*one* officer of the Crown chooses 72 persons, out of whom *other* officers of the Crown reject 45, and the prisoner nine. It is not necessary, moreover, that the Jury should be *unanimous* in condemnation; a majority of eight to four is sufficient in any case. Yet a body of men so chosen is held up as a protection to the subject against the Judges chosen by the Crown!—The mischief of such a state of things is, that instead of being a protection for innocence against corrupt Judges, a body of men so chosen is a protection for corrupt Judges against public opinion and public indignation. Judges have frequently a character to support; they are at least marked men; and if they pervert justice for political purposes, they will generally have some regard to decency of the means in the pursuit of the worst ends. But a packed Jury, brought together merely to perform one act of iniquity, feel no individual responsibility. They deliberate out of Court; the names of the dissentients are not known; they give their decision without assigning any reasons; they do their dirty work separate, and are forgotten. That which is best is when corrupted the worst. As a Jury chosen by lot would be a most efficient check upon a despotic Government, so a packed Jury, such as we have described, is the worst instrument of cruelty and murder.—While such a system prevails in France, we are fully warranted in considering every person executed for a political offence, as a person killed directly by the ruling faction for the support of their ill-gotten power. It would be a gross abuse of terms, a wilful misunderstanding of facts, to treat the fraudulent proceeding, with a packed Jury, as a legal trial, for the result of which the Royal Family and the Ministers are not accountable. With packed Juries, any faction which a combination of despots forces upon France, can murder as many Frenchmen as it pleases.

It operates at a distance—but it operates with certainty; and it would be as childish to make a difference between this and any other sort of violence, as to distinguish between the murderer who levels his victim with a rifle and him who uses a dagger.—Happily for mankind, these delusions do not impose on the mass of the people. Jeffries is not the less execrated, and was not the less punished, because he perpetrated his cruelties through the medium of Juries.—Again, we would warn the ruling faction in France, not to enter on the career of blood;—we would warn them, at least, not to deceive themselves in thinking to deceive others, by shutting their eyes to the guilt which accompanies judicial murders, and the punishment which may follow them.—*Traveller.*

Death of the Duke D'Escars.—Two days before the death of the Duke D'Escars, he was received by the King in the morning. His Majesty, who was in a very good humour, said, "Well, M. le Duc, it is a long time since I ate any *trouilles*" (a sort of German dish prepared of pastry, butter, &c.) The Duke bowed and replied—"Enough, your Majesty's wishes shall be gratified. "*Eh bien*," said the King, "give me one to-morrow morning, and come to breakfast—we shall be alone." The breakfast actually took place, and lasted much longer than that meal ordinarily does. The consequences were fatal. Both the King and the Duke were taken with a surfeit, and the Duke died soon afterwards. The King was in the greatest danger when the death of his first *Maitre d'Hôte* was communicated to him, without any previous preparation. The fright produced by the news was, however, the cause of his recovery. It produced on the nerves of the Monarch a commotion, which at the moment increased his physical powers—a sudden sickness in the stomach dislodged the enemy, and preserved Louis for the country and its cooks.

There is at this moment an American 74-gun ship, the *Franklin*, on the coast of Chili, in the Pacific Ocean, looking after the interests of the American merchants in Chili and Peru. Of this ship a gentleman at Valparaiso writes thus:—"The *Franklin* is commanded by Commodore Stewart, who has his wife with him, a handsome well-educated accomplished woman; she plays on the harp, and speaks the French, Spanish, and Italian languages, both fluently and correctly. The ship is in high order, has 700 men on board, who have a *library* for their use, consisting of about 1000 volumes. The Captain has 700 volumes in his cabin, which is exquisitely fitted up and beautifully furnished."

By the late returns it appears, that in England there are 294,088 females more than males—in Wales, 16,464—in Scotland, 126,352—making a total in Great Britain of 434,904—almost half a million.

"What must I do," said the Hon. J. W. Ward to Lord Byron, "What must I do to be re-whigged?"—"You must first," answered the Noble Poet, "be re-Warded."

It has been repeatedly asserted by a contemporary, that the military execution of 1,200 Turks at Jaffa, by order of Napoleon, is an event unprecedented in history. We are by no means the slaves of example or bigoted to precedent; nor do we conceive that things bad in themselves are less reprehensible because they may be the faithful copies of faulty actions that have been committed in former ages. The general opinion of the world seems to be, that Napoleon was, by the rules of war, justifiable in what he did; but if he is to be condemned by the admirers of the good old times, and the mourners for the age of chivalry, merely on the score of wanting a precedent, one singularly in point can be supplied—the sufferers, Turks; the cause, breach of treaty; the executioner, the hero of chivalrous tale, the lion-hearted Richard. "After every resource had been tried, and every hope exhausted (says Gibbon) the defenders of Acre submitted to their fate; a capitulation was granted, but their lives and liberties were taxed. Some doubts in the agreement, and some delay in the execution, rekindled the fury of the Franks, and 3,000 Moslems, almost in the Sultan's view, were beheaded by the command of the sanguinary Richard." In a note the historian quotes Bohadin, and adds, "this massacre is neither denied nor blamed by the Christian historians."—*Morning Chronicle.*

Blackstone says he will not put the title of the clergy to tithes upon any divine right, though such a right certainly commenced, and as certainly ceased, with the Jewish Theocracy, &c.—2 *Comm.* c. 3.

The *Traveller* says, "Mr. Charles Brinsley Sheridan's *Thoughts* on the Greek Revolution" convey one piece of important intelligence, and we think it deserves undoubted reliance. "The *Greeks* have risen in order to recover *Greece!*" Now this information is concise, clear, and intelligible, which is more than can be said of any other page in the pamphlet.

Agriculture.—Extract of a letter from Crawley, in Sussex, October 2, 1822:—"I am just returned from the sale of D.'s effects, a few miles from hence. Horses, cows, sheep, farming tackle, furniture, almost everything was sold for an old song. D. entered upon his farm in the year 1810, having purchased the freehold for 20,500*l.* mortgaging it, however, at the same time, for 11,000*l.* Three years ago things went so bad with him that the mortgage-money was called in, and the farm was sold at Garraway's for 10,870*l.* which was considered a great price. The purchaser offered it to D. at an annual rent of 300*l.* which, as he had no other prospect, he accepted; and now, such is the state of the times, he is completely ruined, and even the bed upon which he lay is sold away from him. The farmers hereabouts are in a terrible condition; what with rents, tithes, and taxes, they will soon find an end of their capital. Landlords boast of having reduced their rents 25 per cent. but they seem to forget that when things were at the highest (wheat at 35*l.* to 45*l.* per load) they fixed the rents which they have reduced 25 per cent. and now wheat is only 10*l.* to 12*l.* per load. Besides, is not an income of 15,000*l.* per annum much better to a landholder now than 20,000*l.* during the war? At the present price of produce, to pay the grower, rents must come down one half at least, and so must tithes; the taxes might be provided for, if that were done. Some of the clergy, however, hold out hard for their tenths. In an adjoining parish the tithes were compounded for, for three years, for 800*l.* per annum, but the agreement expired yesterday. The parson now wants 1,000*l.* and the parish are resolved to give no more than 600*l.* A hop-grower, who has upwards of 250 acres of hop plantation in this county, declared, at the last Lewes market, that he had lost in the last year upwards of 4,000*l.* and that he expects to lose still more this year."

Distinction without a Difference.—Among the numerous sallies attributed to Mr. Jekyll, we believe the following stands upon better authority than many. A lady of his acquaintance, one morning observing him directing some letters, one of which was addressed to Mr. ——, Solicitor, and another to Mr. ——, Attorney, inquired what was the difference between an Attorney and a Solicitor.—"Much the same, my dear," replied the wag, "as there is between a *Crocodile* and an *Alligator*."

The Chiltern Hundreds.—The Chiltern Hundreds, so frequently mentioned as being accepted by Members of the House of Commons, when they wish to vacate their seats, are divisions of counties made by King Alfred, and now annexed to the Crown, although they still retain their peculiar Courts. The stewards of these Courts are appointed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and their salaries are 20*s.* per annum. This sum, however, small as it is, being derived from an office under the Crown, is sufficient to disqualify any person who accepts it from retaining his seat, unless re-elected. Accepting the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, is, therefore, merely a formal manner of resigning a seat, when a Member wishes to retire from Parliament.

A loftier and a wiser people (than the Scotch) are not to be found now upon the earth, nor do the records of any such survive."—*Blackwood's Magazine.*

The "Chapeau de Paille."—A Mr. John Smith, of Great Marlborough-street, has addressed a letter to a Morning Paper, concerning this celebrated picture of Rubens, in which he states that it does not form a part of his Majesty's collection, and that the price paid for it at the sale at Antwerp was 32,700 florins, which, with the duty and commission, at 10 per cent., amounted to upwards of 3000 guineas. Mr. Smith adds, that, in due time, it will be exhibited to the public.

Bourbon Policy.—The following pleasant story is told in a private letter from Paris. What edifying pains the Bourbons are taking to remind the French nation of the "good old times" in *every* possible particular, in the influence of favourite ladies at court, and the laudable application of the national revenue to purposes of gallantry, as well as in the ferocious revenge of despotism! Madame de Cayla is a great favourite with the King; and many persons wondered that M. de Villele should be made President of the Council, as it was supposed the lady would exert her influence for her friend Peyronnet. The circumstance however is explained in the following manner. His Majesty, in his hours of dalliance with this lady, amuses himself with throwing little paper pellets into her neck (which it may be said *en passant* is a very fine one, considering her age). Now these little flying *billets-doux* turn out to be simply Bank bills of 1000 francs each. Some ultra extraordinary demands having lately been made upon the King's purse, these tempting missives were not of such frequent flight as one of the parties could have wished, in consequence of which she mentioned the circumstance to the most proper person, M. Villele, the Minister of Finance! His gallantry was touched, and to renew the tender correspondence with fitting effect, he gave to his Majesty, each time that he met him to *travailler seul*, a little packet of ten bills of the usual amount. The mornings after these meetings, the lady was sure to arrive by pure accident from her country house, and the Minister of Finance became President of the Council!

Dr. Johnson's Scale of Liquors.—Claret for boys;—Port for men:—Brandy for heroes. "Then (said Mr. Burke) let me have claret; I love to be a boy; to have the careless gaiety of boyish days." Johnson replied, "I should drink claret too, if it would give me that; but it does not: it neither makes boys men, nor men boys. You'll be drowned by it before it has any effect on you."

Rev. Mr. Abdy, Junior.—Even from his own account, the late behaviour of this clergyman, in the church-yard, appears to us to have been highly unbecoming. Whatever may have been the demeanour of the undertaker, it had nothing to do with the melancholy business in hand; and to commence the ceremony in the hasty way he did,—to decline going through with it,—to leave the grave in a passion,—and to keep the unoffending and afflicted relatives of the deceased waiting in a state of agony for more than two hours,—merely because he had quarrelled with the undertaker, are proofs to us that Mr. Abdy had profited but little by the benevolent sentiments he must frequently have enforced to others. "Blessed are the meek (says Matthew) for they shall inherit the earth." "I therefore (says Paul) beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called; with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love." "Charity (adds the same Apostle) suffereth long and is kind; doth not behave itself unseemly; is not easily provoked." The course which Mr. Abdy should have followed was plain enough. He should have done his duty at the grave, and *then*,—if he thought that Mr. Butler had misconducted himself,—have proceeded to demand an explanation and apology. As it was, neither duty nor humanity, nor even common decency, seem to us to have been consulted; and to follow such conduct up by commencing a prosecution for assault, satisfies us that the Reverend Divine is as impolitic as he is violent.

Mr. Martin is engraving his *Joshua* and his *Belshazzar*, from the original design in the possession of Thomas Wilson, Esq.—and is further employed on a work of perhaps much greater sublimity and difficulty of execution than he has hitherto painted—the subject is *Sardanapalus, or the fall of Ninevah.—European Mag.*

Vanity Mortified.—A Gentleman just come from Paris, dining one day with Richardson at North-end, willing to please the author, mentioned to him that he had seen his *Clarissa* lying on the King's brother's table. Richardson, observing that part of the company were engaged in talking to each other, affected then not to attend to it; but by and by, when there was a general silence, and he thought that the flattery might be fully heard, he addressed himself to the gentleman,—"I think, Sir, you were saying something about——" (pausing in a high flutter of expectation) The gentleman, provoked at his vanity, resolved not to indulge it; and with a sly air of indifference answered, "A mere trifle, Sir,—not worth repeating." The mortification of Richardson was visible, and he did not speak more than ten words the whole day.

Consolation.—The wife of one of Dr. Johnson's acquaintance had fraudulently made a purse for herself out of her husband's fortune. Feeling a proper compunction in her last moments, she confessed how much she had secreted; but before she could tell where it was placed, she expired. Her husband said, he was more hurt by her want of confidence in him, than by the loss of his money. "I told him (said Johnson) that he should console himself; for *perhaps* the money might be found, and he was *sure* that his wife was *gone*."

Proof of Civilization.—A writer of a modern book of travels, relating the particulars of his being cast away, thus concludes:—"After having walked eleven hours without having traced the print of a human foot, to my great comfort and delight I saw a man hanging upon a gibbet; my pleasure at the cheering prospect was inexpressible, for it convinced me I was in a civilized country."

Thrale's Entire.—On the death of Mr. Thrale, it was believed that Dr. Johnson wanted to wed his rich widow—and "An Ode to Mrs. Thrale, by Samuel Johnson, LL.D. on their approaching Nuptials," was published by the wags; of which the following is a specimen:—

"If ere my fingers touch'd the lyre
In satire fierce, in pleasure gay,
Shall not my Thralia's smiles inspire?
Shall Sam refuse the sportive lay?

"My dearest lady, view your slave;
Behold him, as your very scrub,
Eager to write, as author grave,
Or govern well the brewing tub.

"To rich felicity thus rais'd
My bosom glows with amorous fire;
Porter no longer shall be prais'd,
'Tis I myself am *Thrale's Entire*."

Royal Sensibility.—One reason why Louis XV. was so little regretted, was the want of sensibility which he evinced for all about him. He gave orders himself for the preparations of the funeral of Madame de Pompadour, of whom he was so fond; and went out to hunt on the very day on which she was buried. The Marquis de Chauvelin, who was one of the party that supped with him every night, and who was become necessary to him by the pleasures of his society, died of an apoplexy in his presence.—The King was a little affected at the event; but it was more on account of the nature of the accident, than from any regret he felt for his loss.—Two days after, as he was going to Trianon, his carriage was suddenly stopped by one of his horses dropping down dead. "That is like Chauvelin," said the King.—Another instance of his want of sensibility was particularly remarkable with respect to the Marquis d'Ecquevilly, who belonged to the King's hunt, and spent much of his time with him. Being dangerously ill, the King sent every day to inquire after him. The Marquis, flattered by this attention, and penetrated with gratitude, waited only till he should be able to pay his respects, to express how sensible he was of so much goodness. He would not even stay for his perfect recovery, before he waited upon the King; but caused himself to be carried into the gallery, and as the King passed on his way to mass, he threw himself at his feet; and in terms of the most lively gratitude was beginning to thank him for the honour he had done him by sending so often to enquire after him, when the King interrupted him: "Ah! are you there, Ecquevilly? I must tell you honestly, that I thought you would have died of that complaint; and I intended to have had you opened, to see which of your physicians had formed a true opinion of the nature of your disorder."—*Memoirs of a Traveller now in Retirement.*

A Correspondent says,—"Observing a letter in the *Examiner* relative to bees, I can inform the writer of a fact equally curious. Being in the country last February, I observed a number of plants of the Bellows class in a state of torpor, and without any appearance of vitality. But notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, on being brought near the fire, they instantly appeared in full bloom."

Papal Bon-Mot.—The other day, when the Senator of Rome came to wait upon him, at the first compliments he made him, the Pope (Benedict XIV.) pulled off his hat. His Master of the Ceremonies, who stood by his side, touched him softly, as to warn him that such a condescension was too great in him, and out of all manner of rule. Upon which he turned to him and said, "Oh! I cry your mercy, good Master! It is true I am but a novice of a Pope: I have not yet so much as learned ill manners."—*Gray's Works.*

Light Reading.—I have, upon your recommendation (says the poet Gray in a letter to Richard West) been reading Joseph Andrews. The incidents are ill laid and without invention; but the characters have a great deal of nature, which always pleases even in her lowest shapes. Parson Adams is perfectly well, so is Mrs Slipslop and the story of Wilson; and throughout he shews himself well read in stage-coaches, country squires, inns, and inns of court. His reflections upon high people and low people, and misses and masters, are very good. However the exaltedness of some minds (or rather, as I shrewdly suspect, their insipidity and want of feeling or observation) may make them insensible to these light things—(I mean such as characterise and paint Nature)—yet surely they are as weighty and much more useful than your grave discourses upon the mind, the passions, and what not. Now as the Paradisaical pleasures of the Mahometans consist in playing upon the flute and lying with Houris, be mine to read eternal new romances of Marivaux and Crebillon!

Upper and Lower House.—Was it not of the English Parliament that the Prophet spoke, under the name of Babylon, when he said, "Their Houses shall be full of doleful creatures, [the Wynns, Bathursts, &c.] and owls shall build there—[meaning, perhaps, the Speakers].—* * * * * * a den for ever—a joy of wild asses."

The old Licentiate in *Gil Blas* appears to have been as unfortunate in his diet as his doctor. "Broths and juicy meats" were his chief food; but of the former, Sir John Sinclair, in his Code of Health, thus speaks:—"A dog was fed on the richest broth, yet could not be kept alive; while another, which had only the meat boiled to a chip, and water, throve very well. This shews the folly of attempting to nourish men by concentrated soups, jellies, &c."

Angels.—One of the most learned and incomprehensible writers on Angels, was St. Thomas Aquinas, styled "the Angelical Doctor." His works form 17 folio volumes, one of which reaches 1250 pages, of very small print, in double columns! He is of opinion that Angels have not, naturally, bodies, though they may assume them; that when assumed, they are of thick air; that Angels were not before the world; that they govern every corpo-

real creature, &c. Many of the questions discussed by this Saint are much too indecent for mention in a modern newspaper; and others—such as, whether the Pious, at the resurrection, will rise with their bowels?—are equally gross and trifling.

Wisdom of Solomon.—Beside the proofs given of the wisdom of Solomon in the Bible, there is one mentioned in the Talmud, which is curious. Queen Sheba, wishing to puzzle the monarch, presented herself at the foot of the throne with a wreath of flowers in each hand—one natural, the other artificial, but exquisitely formed. At the distance she held the wreaths, it was deemed impossible for the Hebrew Monarch to decide the question she put, as to which was the natural wreath? But the Son of David was too knowing for the Royal Lady, for observing some bees outside the window, he ordered it to be opened, when they rushed in and immediately fixed themselves on the real flowers.

Relics.—Stephens, in his *Traité preparatif à l'Apologie pour Herodote*, says, "A Monk of St. Anthony having been at Jerusalem, saw there several relics—among which were, a bit of the Finger of the Holy Ghost, as sound and entire as it had ever been; the Snout of the Seraphim that appeared to St. Francis; one of the Nails of a Cherubim; one of the Ribs of the *Verbum caro factum* (the Word made flesh); some Rays of the Star which appeared to the three Kings in the East; a Vial of St. Michael's Sweat when he was fighting against the Devil; a Hem of Joseph's Garment, which he wore when he cleaved his wood," &c.—Henry III. of England, was a great hoarder of relics. He informed his Council, on one occasion, that the Grand Master of the Templars had sent him a Vial containing a small portion of the precious Blood of Christ, which he had shed upon the Cross, and attested to be genuine by the Patriarch of Jerusalem! He ordered a procession the following day, in honour of the gift.

A Tavern.—There is no private house (said Dr. Johnson) in which people can enjoy themselves so well as at a capital tavern. Let there be ever so great plenty of good things, ever so much grandeur, ever so much elegance, ever so much desire that every body should be easy, in the nature of things it cannot be; there must always be some degree of care and anxiety. The master of the house is anxious to entertain his guests; the guests are anxious to be agreeable to him; and no man, but a very impudent dog indeed, can as freely command what is in another man's house as if it were his own. Whereas at a tavern there is a general freedom from anxiety. You are sure you are welcome; and the more noise you make, the more trouble you give, the more good things you call for, the welcomer you are. No servants will attend you with the alacrity which waiters do, who are incited by the prospect of an immediate reward, in proportion as they please. No, Sir; there is nothing which has yet been contrived by man, by which so much happiness is produced, as by a good tavern or inn—*Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson.*

Expensive Gallantry.—Among the *facetiæ* of Charles the Second's days, it was the custom when a gentleman drank a lady's health as a toast, by way of doing her greater honour, to throw some part of his dress into the fire, an example which his companions were bound to follow, by consuming the same article of their apparel, whatever it might be. An acquaintance, perceiving at a tavern dinner, that Sir Charles Sedley (the gay licentious wit and versifier) had a very rich lace cravat, when he named his toast, committed his cravat to the flames, as a burnt offering to the temporary divinity; and Sir Charles was of course obliged, along with the rest, to do the same. He complied with good humour, saying it was a good joke, but that he would have as good a one another time. Accordingly, at a subsequent meeting of the same party, he toasted Nell Gwynne; and calling in a tooth-drawer he had in waiting, made him draw a decayed tooth which it was a blessing to lose. His companions begged him to be merciful, and wave the custom; but he was inexorable, and added to their mortification by repeating, while their sound teeth were suffering under the operation,—"Patience, patience, gentlemen, you know you promised I should have my frolic too."

Death of Admiral Byng.—The fatal morning arrived, but was by no means met by the Admiral with reluctance. The whole tenor of his behaviour had been cheerful, steady, dignified, and sensible. While he felt like a victim, he acted like a hero. Indeed he was the only man whom his enemies had had no power to bend to their purposes. He always received with indignation any proposal from his friends of practising an escape,—an advantage he scorned to lend to clamour. Of his fate he talked with indifference; and neither shunned to hear the requisite depositions, nor affected parade in them. For the last fortnight he constantly declared that he would not suffer a handkerchief over his face, that it might be seen whether he betrayed the least symptom of fear; and when the minute arrived, adhered to his purpose. He took an easy leave of his friends, detained the officers not a moment, went directly to the deck, and placed himself in a chair with neither ceremony nor lightness. He would not kneel, and refused to have his face covered: but being told that it might frighten his executioners, he submitted; gave the signal at once; received one shot through the head, another through the heart, and fell!—His whole behaviour was natural and firm. A few days before, one of his friends standing by him said, "which of us is tallest?" He replied, "why this ceremony? I know what it means: let the man come and measure me for my coffin." He said, that being acquitted of cowardice, and being persuaded on the coolest reflection that he had acted for the best, and should act so again, he was not unwilling to suffer. Many years after this tragedy was acted, being with the Princess Amelia at her villa at Gunnersbury, she told me, that while Admiral Byng's affair was pending, the Duchess of Newcastle sent Lady Sophia Egerton to her the Princess, to beg her to be *for* the execution. They thought, added the Princess, that unless he was put to death, Lord Anson would not be at the head of the Admiralty! I replied, that I thought his death most unjust, and the sentence a most absurd contradiction. Lady Sophia Egerton was wife of a clergyman, afterwards Bishop of Durham. What a complication of horrors! Women employed on a job for blood!—*Lord Orford's Memoirs.*

On the Greeks who fell at Thermopylæ.

They fell devoted, but undying;
The very gale their names seemed sighing:
The waters murmured of their name;
The woods were peopled with their fame;
The silent pillar, lone and gray,
Claimed kindred with their sacred clay;
Their spirits wrapt the dusky mountain,
Their memory sparkled o'er the fountain;
The meanest rill, the mightiest river,
Rolled mingled with their fame for ever.
Despite of every yoke she bears,
That land is glory's still and theirs!
'Tis still a watch-word to the earth:
When man would do a deed of worth,
He points to Greece, and turns to tread,
So sanctioned, on the tyrant's head:
He looks to her, and rushes on
Where life is lost, or freedom won. Byron.

POLICE.

BOW-STREET.

In the course of the usual business of this office on Monday, a fashionably dressed young lady entered the office and asked for Sir R. Birnie, and not finding him she requested a private audience of Mr. Halls. This the Worthy Magistrate refused, and the lady, who gave her card, on which was engraved "*Lady Wilmington*," proceeded to complain of an insult offered to her at the back entrance of the Ordnance-office, opposite to which she had stopped with a friend to see General Phipps alight from his cabriolet. She was first offended by the conduct of some female servants at the door, and on entering the passage to complain of their conduct, she was ordered to depart; on refusing to do so, she was seized by the arm and thrust out.—The Magistrate declined issuing a warrant under such circumstances, and the lady retired, declaring that she would appeal to Sir R. Birnie.—She stated herself to be the Lady of Sir J. Wilmington; there is no such name in the list of Baronets.

Charge of Arson.—On Tuesday, *Mrs. Neville*, a respectable looking woman, apparently about 30 years of age, was charged on suspicion of having wilfully set fire to a certain dwelling-house, of which she was the occupier. Thomas Glenton, of Wilton-place, Pimlico, bricklayer, sworn—I have a house, No. 40, Chapel-street, Grosvenor-place, which I let to Mrs. Neville for a lease of 21 years. She was to give me a premium, and I had lately pressed her for the payment of it. The house was partly furnished by Mrs. Neville, and partly by a Mr. Forbes, who lodged on the first floor, but who quitted the house on Friday or Saturday. Mrs. Neville had not given me any notice that she was about to quit the house. On Saturday evening, my foreman said there was a fire there. I went to the house, and found the furniture in great disorder; nearly the whole of it had been removed to the lower part. I went up into the back garret, where I saw Mrs. Neville sitting on the bedstead, seemingly much distressed. The bed curtains were burnt, and the wainscot appeared to have suffered from fire. There were some pieces of tinder on the floor. I asked her what was the matter? and she said she came up stairs to the back garret to make up the mattress for a young man who was to sleep in the house for protection, and when she opened the door she saw an apparition, or a ghost, I am not sure which was the word. [The witness being pressed, said "apparition" was the word, he was sure.] She said she retreated; but, determined to know what it was, she returned to the room, and then saw some-

thing tall move behind the curtain, which so alarmed her that she dropped the candle and ran down stairs.—She said also that she had been robbed, and that a great deal of linen, two 5*l.* notes, and two sovereigns, had been taken out of the deal drawers. I then examined the drawers, and in the bottom one I found several pieces of rags burnt, not quite to tinder, but they had suffered by fire; some of the rags were damp with oil, and a bottle of oil, something larger than a half pint, was amongst the rags. There was also a small piece of candle. The drawers were a considerable distance from the bed. My impression was, from all that I saw and heard, that the house had been set on fire on purpose.—In answer to a question the witness said, Mrs. Neville objected to paying the premium on account of some doubt as to the title of Lord Grosvenor, the ground landlord.

George Whiting sworn—I live at No. 8, Chapel-street. On Saturday evening Mrs. Neville came and said she had seen a man in her house, and begged me to come over and see. I went up stairs, and saw the room in a flame. I saw no man nor ghost in the room. I went down stairs to get a pail of water, but Mrs Neville said she had no pail in the house, and I got one from a neighbour's. More persons came in, and water was brought to put out the fire. The bed curtains were burnt, and the fire had caught the wainscot. The body of the wood had, in my opinion, been caught by the flame.

Ellis and Jones, two officers, deposed, that they had examined the room in which the fire took place, which they had done most minutely, and they were enabled positively to state, that no part of the wainscotting had been actually on fire; it was scorched and the paint blistered, but the wood was not burnt.

Upon this evidence, Mr. Halls said, the offence amounted only to a misdemeanour (that of *attempting* to set the house on fire)—and he should therefore call upon Mrs. Neville for bail, for her appearance at the Sessions.—Mrs. Neville made no observation, and two gentlemen, who came with her, immediately entered into a recognizance of 50*l.* each, for her appearance.

MANSION-HOUSE.

On Friday, a young man named *Hunter*, a wire-worker, was charged with having attempted to drown himself the night before. The night patrol stated, that in going his rounds about 12 o'clock, he observed the prisoner endeavouring to get over the balustrades of London-bridge, but prevented him from affecting his object. No resistance was made by the prisoner, nor was any complaint uttered except occasionally a murmur for the loss of his wife, who had, he said, rushed, without being called, into the presence of her Maker.—Some of his friends gave him an excellent character. He was a most sober and industrious man, but they apprehended that she was addicted to drinking; she had been found in the Thames near the spot into which he would have fallen from the bridge, had not the officer prevented the catastrophe. He had a child in the country, and the witnesses intended to send for the child as a sure means of curing the father of despair.—Hunter, upon hearing his child spoken of, shed tears. He hoped God would forgive him for the crime he had committed, and vowed most solemnly never to offend in such a manner again. He did not complain of poverty, or of any thing else, but the loss of his wife, which was insupportable to him. Irreparable as her loss was, he was determined now, he said, to work for his poor child, and to forget the manner in which she had left him and the world. The Lord Mayor, assuring him that industry was the best remedy for despair, dismissed him to his work.

GUILDHALL.

George Massey, a servant out of place, was on Friday committed to take his trial for the capital offence of charging James Lockwood with an atrocious crime.

A decent-looking young man, apparently strongly agitated, was brought up as disorderly. He had been married just five months, and last Wednesday his beloved was safely delivered of a chopping boy. On this discovery of his wife's frailties, the passion of the husband broke all bounds, and he had conducted himself with a violence bordering on insanity. On first entering the room after the discovery, he was so intensely affected, that he went into a fit of hysterics, in which state he remained upwards of two hours, and he had since been so dreadfully agitated that his landlady found it necessary to give him in custody. Sir James Shaw treated him with great kindness, and upon his promise to refrain from going to the house, at least until his wife should be in a state to bear his reproaches, directed him to be discharged.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.

Mr. Lowndes (the East-India proprietor) appeared to answer the complaint of the parish officers of St. Pancras, for refusing to obey an order made by the Magistrates in 1818, directing him to pay for the maintenance of two bastard children, at the rate of 10*s.* a week each.—Mr. Lowndes warmly remonstrated against the order, [illegible] and moreover, was unjust, as he was sure, from the infamous character of the mother of the children, that they were not his.—The Magistrate said he could not interfere: Mr. Lowndes must settle the matter with the parish officers. The parties at length retired for the purpose of a consultation.

A genteel, elderly man, who, with much reluctance, said his name was *Copland*, and that he was a farmer in Essex, was charged by John Edwards, master of the Bull and Gate, Holborn, with setting fire to a room in that house on Wednesday evening.—The following are the facts of the case, as stated by Thomas Pask, the waiter:—The prisoner came to the house soon after eight o'clock in the evening, accompanied by a woman of the town. Three shillings were paid for the lodging, and the woman very soon left him, through some dispute. In about 20 minutes after, the prisoner came down stairs and threw the candlestick under the gateway. The waiter went up stairs immediately, and found that the room was on fire. The door, which fastened by a spring lock, was shut, and on the waiter forcing it open, the bed furniture and the wainscoting of the room were on fire, but, by prompt measures, the flames were extinguished with the destruction of the furniture. The prisoner had gone, but in about half an hour, when every thing was secure, he returned for an umbrella he had left, and he was taken into custody.—The prisoner made an incoherent defence, denying that he had set fire to the place.—He was remanded.

HATTON-GARDEN.

On Thursday, *John Miles*, keeper of the Highgate Archway-gate, was fined 20*s.* for seizing the hat of a gentleman, who had inadvertently passed through the gateway, and who, not knowing of such a toll, had refused to pay.

EDINBURGH POLICE-COURT.

A case of some importance to the public was decided in this Court, on the 19th inst. A lady, at an auction of what was stated to be a bankrupt stock of haberdashery goods, purchased two plaids for the sum of 2*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* These the auctioneer described as consisting of silk, as being of full size, that they had cost each three guineas, and were generally sold for three guineas and a half each. On afterwards examining her purchase, the lady discovered that she had been imposed upon by a false description, the attached fringes and body alone being of silk, while the large figured ends and the figured borders were of cotton, and they were also of a smaller size than usual. She therefore applied for her money, and offered back the goods; and the auctioneer not complying, she lodged a complaint against him. Upon the hearing of which, the Court ordered him to restore the price, he getting back the goods, and he was also found liable in the expenses.—*Scotsman.*

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

About a fortnight ago, a poor man in the employ of Messrs. Ball and Co. Old Jewry, named *Thomas Stewart*, on going to work, discovered a strange cat in the warehouse, and on being told to remove her, he attempted so to do, when the cat seized hold of one of his fingers, which was in a trifling degree lacerated, but the injury being so trivial, he took no notice of it, till Friday week, when the poor fellow was visited with violent vomitings. He became alarmingly worse in the course of Friday night, and next morning, having betrayed strong symptoms of hydrophobia, he was taken to St. Thomas's Hospital, where all efforts proved abortive, and he died about two o'clock. The poor fellow has left a pregnant wife and four small children to bewail his loss.

On Thursday week, the son of a respectable merchant, named Nixon, made an attempt upon his own life in Moorfields. He was in a state of mental derangement at the time, and had been confined at a private mad-house in Bethnal-green, from which he made his escape. On the day of his escape he conducted himself with more than ordinary discretion, and retired, when all were most deeply engaged, to his room, where he took the cord from his bedstead, and fastening it to a window-bar, let himself down, and walked to a coach-stand, where he hired a chariot, and ordered the coachman to drive to the Monument. Upon arriving at the Monument, he alighted and purchased a brace of pistols, and powder and ball, and then ordered the coachman to drive to Moorfields, to the house of the Rev. Mr. Devereux, the Catholic clergyman. Having reached that destination, he left a letter for Mr. Devereux, begging that a spot in the burial-ground in which the Reverend Gentleman usually officiated, should be given up for the reception of the body of the unfortunate writer. The chariot was out of sight before the letter was read, and the poor maniac had discharged one of the pistols at his own body. The ball entered between the ribs. He was taken back to the mad-house, where every possible attention has been paid to him, but it is apprehended that he cannot recover. He has been in the army and navy, but some years ago he was attacked with brain fever, which permanently affected his mind.

On Monday morning the following dreadful circumstance took place at the house of Mr. Craig, linen-draper, of Oxford-street: Mr. Craig has been for some time past labouring under great aberration of mind, and occasionally he would indulge in drinking immoderately, and on various occasions, while under the influence of liquor, he has been prevented precipitating himself from the drawing-room window. On Monday morning, at about half past ten o'clock, he was unfortunately inebriated, and in the second floor apartment of his house, when he proceeded to the window and threw himself into the street. Previous to coming to the ground, he came with great violence on the ledge near the first floor window, and from thence to the pavement, pitching on his head. Some persons immediately ran to his assistance, and carried him into his house, dreadfully injured. A surgeon was procured, but the unfortunate gentleman died shortly after. The deceased was 40 years of age, and has left a wife and three children.

New York Papers to the 25th August have reached town, and we are happy to find by them, that the reports in circulation respecting a fire which had happened in that city, were greatly exaggerated. Instead of nearly one half of the city being destroyed, it does not appear that more than two or three stores, a few sheds, and one or two dwelling-houses, were burnt. The property however, which was consumed, was estimated to amount to 100,000 dollars, as the fire broke out at the great depot of naval stores, and soon communicated to several others. From the combustible nature of the materials they contained, the conflagration is described as having exhibited an awfully grand appearance.—A very destructive fire also took place at Baltimore on the 19th of August, in which much merchandize was destroyed. Both there and at New York, it was supposed that incendiaries had caused the disaster.

On the 20th ult. a young man, son of Mr. Cormack, of the Forse Inn, Caithness, was preparing to shoot a dog, when the trigger of his gun came in contact with something, and the shot went off. The scene of horror which followed cannot be described, for the ball passed through a younger brother's head, who fell dead in an instant at his feet. The grief into which his inconsolable parents and friends are plunged, is rendered doubly distressing by the present state of the elder brother, who awakes only for a moment to a consciousness of the dreadful fact, from a state of frenzy into which he immediately relapses.—*Inverness Courier*.

Sanguinary Fanaticism.—In the village of Wende, in Nassau, a woman has murdered her three children. She perpetrated the horrid act in cold blood, and declares that she hoped thereby to provoke her husband to kill her, in order that he might be brought to trial and hanged as the murderer. Had this taken place, she was confident that they would all five have immediately met in Heaven. She regrets that her pious plan has been disappointed, as she says, through her husband's want of feeling. The disease with which this poor woman is afflicted is one which belongs to the age!—*German paper, Sept.* 22.

The high road from the foot of Blackfriars Bridge has lately become a most daring spot for persons to pass after dusk, and especially before the setting of the watch. Gangs of ruffians who pretend to be *larking* together, mark out some gentleman, who perhaps imprudently exposes his seals and chain; he is immediately hustled, thrown down if possible, a loud cry is purposely raised by those who fall on him, and, in the confusion, he is sure to be robbed. Mr. Stedman, of York-street, was robbed on Wednesday night in this manner, of several links of his chain, two seals, &c. valued at 5*l.*; he was quite close to his own residence at the time.

Extraordinary Negociation.—A negociation has been for some time on foot between the thieves who robbed the Ipswich Mail Coach of the notes of Alexander and Co. to the amount of 31,199*l.* and some persons on the part of the Bank. The thieves had signified soon after the robbery took place, that the risk they ran, and the ingenuity they exercised in this hazardous undertaking, entitled them to a great portion of the sum they had made themselves masters of, and they made an exorbitant proposal, undertaking to restore the notes, upon the payment of 6000*l.* in sovereigns, and an indemnity from all charges. A refusal was given, and the thieves, who were not afraid of detection, seemed careless as to the rejection of their terms. The sum of 3000*l.* was offered to them, on condition that they would return all the notes. The gang replied, that they had already sent 3000*l* into circulation; and that as that money was quite out of the question, they must look for a profit from the notes in their possession; and they demanded 3000*l.* more as a recompence for their loss, if they should give up all they had risked their lives to obtain. For some days the negociation was kept up; but the bankers were playing a deeper game than the thieves; in all those places where their notes were in great circulation they were called in, and it was pretty well ascertained at the time that none of the stolen notes had been circulated; the report to that effect having been made by those who were so deeply interested for the purpose of raising their terms. Bills were posted offering a reward of 5000*l.* to those who would give information of the robbery, either at Alexander's and Co., or at Fry's and Co., St. Mildred's-court, Poultry; so that the parties may be convicted, and the property recovered. Two thousand pounds have been offered for the conviction of the parties without the recovery of the property; and the public have been requested to take no more of the black ink notes of the Ipswich Bank, without well knowing the persons from whom they receive them, as Alexander and Co. had instructed their bankers in London to refer those who presented such notes to themselves at Ipswich. The colour of the copper-plate has been changed from black to red, and at Fry's banking-house some notes of the Ipswich bank, which were presented by strangers, were stamped with the words "stolen, referred to Alexander and Co. Ipswich," and returned to the persons who presented them. It is calculated that the gang cannot pass more than a couple of hundred pounds' worth of the stolen notes, as a general terror of the black Ipswich bank notes prevails wherever they have been in circulation.

On Monday the 16th ult. at Whithorn, in Galloway, James Connochar, murdered his own infant. He married a servant girl some time ago, who, it is believed, took him for a livelihood, as he was stricken in years, and had amassed a sum exceeding 600*l.*, which, report adds, he always kept in the house, with the character of a misogamist, and habits most wretchedly miserly. During his wife's pregnancy, he had often been heard to say—"That he did not know whether she was with child, or whether it was a toad or a baby; but if the latter, he would soon put an end to its existence!" His wife was safely delivered of a fine boy at the isle of Whithorn, on Sunday morning, the 15th ult. and when shown the child he took and kissed it. Next day, however, when the strangers were gone, he went to his young wife, and asked for the baby till she should turn herself in bed. He then took the child up stairs, and inhumanly murdered it by compressing the throat. In the mean time, the mother hearing the infant scream, ran up stairs, weak as she was; but before she could burst open the door, which her husband had previously bolted, the little innocent was no more. A precognition was taken by the Sheriff Substitute, and the unnatural parent was committed to Whithorn gaol.—*Glasgow paper*.

Wednesday evening the Baptismal Ceremony was performed upon thirty adults at the chapel in the Borough-road. Soon after seven o'clock, the chapel was literally crammed, when the seats at the back of the place gave way, and a vast number of persons, men, women, and children, were precipitated to the ground from an immense height. Many persons were contused by the accident, but not materially.

Wednesday evening, the house of Mr. Corcoran, No. 27, Britannia-street, City-road, was robbed of property consisting of plate, money, and wearing apparel, to a large amount. The robbery took place while the family were at the play

Late on Wednesday night an inquest was taken at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on view of the body of *Master Thomas Batson*, aged ten years, who met his death by a fall from the roof of his father's house, while endeavouring to save a favourite pigeon from the claws of a cat. Verdict—Died from accidentally falling from the top of a house.

Friday afternoon, an inquisition was taken in Goswell-street, on the body of *George Clifford*, aged 13. It appeared that the deceased, who was servant to Mr. Ware, butcher, had a habit of twisting his neck round in the jack towel in the cellar, and on this occasion he had proceeded so far as to strangle himself. There appeared no intention of self-destruction on the part of the deceased —The jury returned a verdict—That the deceased strangled himself by accident, and not with the intent to commit suicide.

An awful circumstance occurred at the City of London Tavern at the meeting of the friends of the Pension Society, on Wednesday, for the election of pensioners into that institution. One of the candidates, B. Gray, aged 75, was suddenly taken ill. Mr. Pugh, of Gracechurch-street, attended; but before he arrived the poor man had expired. On the result of the election being known, it was ascertained he was one of the successful candidates. His widow will be a candidate at the next election, in April, when it is hoped from the peculiarity of her case, and the respectability of her claim, she will succeed.

Last Wednesday, a young man named Coombs, of Axminster, went into a shop in that town, and purchased some horse-nails, with which he loaded a pistol, and afterwards presented it to the head of the shopkeeper, but immediately turned the muzzle towards his own, and pulled the trigger; the scene which ensued was dreadful—the brains of the unfortunate man being literally scattered about the spot!—*Taunton Courier*.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.

THE Public is most respectfully informed, that the INTERIOR of this Theatre having been ENTIRELY RE-CONSTRUCTED, the Stage considerably enlarged, and the whole Theatre newly decorated, the Performances will commence on Saturday, October 12, 1822, with a PLAY and ENTERTAINMENTS; particulars of which, and of the time of opening the Box-office, will be duly announced.

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MRS. CHATTERLEY respectfully announces to her Friends and the Public, that her BENEFIT will take place on Friday next, the 11th instant, when will be performed (1st time this season) the Comedy of the BELLE'S STRATAGEM. Doricourt by Mr. C. Kemble; Letitia Hardy by Mrs. Chatterley, being her 1st appearance in that character. In the Masquerade Scene, the Minuet de la Cour by Mrs. Chatterley and Mr. Giroux, who has kindly offered his services. Miss Paton will also sing several favourite Scotch Airs. To conclude with a variety of Entertainments, in which Mr. Liston, Miss Paton, and Mrs. Chatterley, will perform.

Tickets and Places to had of Mrs. Chatterley, No. 18, Cecil-street, Strand; and at the Box-office.

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THIS THEATRE will open for the Winter Season, on Monday next, Oct. 7th, with the original far-famed Burletta of TOM AND JERRY, or, Life in London. After which will be performed, for the first time, an entirely new Burletta, called the NEW MARRIAGE ACT, or, a Lesson for Lovers.

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BIRTHS.

On the 11th ult. Anne, wife of Richard Bacon, Esq. Dublin, after being married 18 years, was safely delivered of two fine girls.

On Wednesday, at Broad Oak, Mrs. Walker, of three children, two girls and a boy, who, with the mother, are likely to do well.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st inst. at St. Clement Danes, Thomas Wing, Esq. of Gray's-inn, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of John Paternoster, Esq. of Norfolk-street.

On Tuesday, in the Parish Church of Aveley, Wm. John Saint-Aubyn, third son of Sir John Saint-Aubyn, Bart. of Clowance, Cornwall, to Anne Dorothy Barrett Lennard, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard, Bart. of Bell-house, Essex.

At Huish, in Devonshire, the Right Hon. Lord Rolle, to the Hon. Louisa Trefusis, sister to Lord Clinton.

At St. Sidwell's Church, Exeter, Thomas Williams, aged 79, to Miss Broad, aged 30.

DEATHS.

The Duchess of Newcastle, in Nottinghamshire, on Friday week. Her Grace was delivered of twins, a boy and a girl, the latter still-born, on Tuesday week. Her Grace was daughter of Edward Munday, Esq. She had 16 children, viz. 11 sons and five daughters, of whom there are now living nine sons and three daughters; of these four were born at two births.

On the 12th ult. at Bath, Miss Teresia Reynell, formerly of Wells, aged 58, daughter of the late Rev. Carew Reynell, and grand-daughter of Carew Reynell, Bishop of Derry.

At Hammersmith, on the 16th ult. the Countess of Dundonald. Her Ladyship has left a daughter, aged two years and a half.

On Monday, in Nelson-square, Lady Ahlis, in the 42nd year of her age.

On Tuesday, at the Admiralty, Lieutenant George Pace, R. N. About one o'clock on Tuesday the deceased fell from his chair in the Telegraph, of which he has long had the command, in a fit of apoplexy, and expired at 11 o'clock in the evening.

On Wednesday, suddenly, at Loders, in Dorsetshire, in his 71st year, the Right Hon. Sir Evan Nepean, Bart. High Sheriff for the County.

The Rev. John Owen, A. M. on the 26th ult. at Ramsgate.

On Monday, Mrs. Street, wife of Mr. Street, one of the Proprietors of the *Courier*.

On the 22nd ult. at Dawlish, Robert, eldest son of Sir Robert Chester, of Bush-hall, Herts.

On Wednesday week, in Newington-place, Richard Langton, Esq. late of Lombard-street, Banker.

On Monday week, at Exmouth, aged 64, Robert Russell, Esq. formerly proprietor of the extensive waggon concern on the great Western Road.

On the 25th ult. aged 60, Charles Evans, better known by the name of Carolus the Hermit of Tong, where, in a lonely and romantic cell on the domain of George Durant, Esq. he, for the space of seven years, sustained the character he had chosen.

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